BAKI

THE GRAPPLER

KEISUKE ITAGAKI

21

BAKI

THE GRAPPLER

KEISUKE ITAGAKI

PERFECT EDITION

21

BAKI

THE GRAPPLER

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#318 I Won This!!

THE GRAPPLER
BAKI

BAKI HAS ENTERED THE RING COVERED IN BLOOD AND BRUISES!

WHAT IN THE WORLD IS GOING ON?!

白虎

BAKI, WHAT HAPPENED?!

...

...

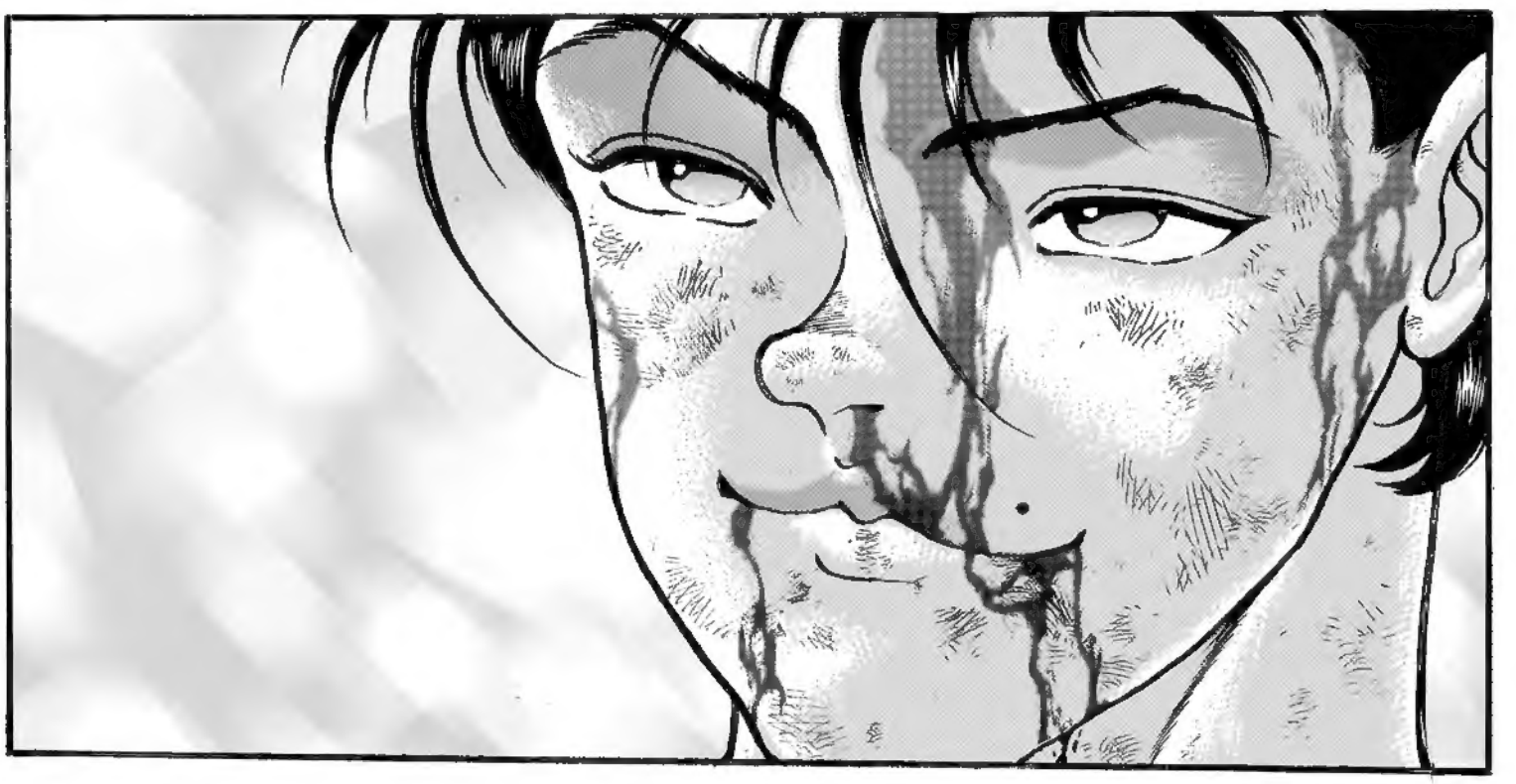
WHAT THE ...?!

WHA ...?

白虎

虎

喜屯



YOU SURE ARE STRONG.

THAT WAS REALLY INTENSE...
4,000 YEARS OF CHINESE HISTORY...
I'M NOT TRYING TO UNDERSTATE IT ALL, BUT...
MAN...
KAIO RETSU
HEIGHT: 176 CM
WEIGHT: 106 KG
BAKI HANMA
HEIGHT: 167 CM
WEIGHT: 71 KG

THANKS TO YOU...

虎

...FOR THE FIRST TIME IN A WHILE, I GOT TO SEE MY *SERIOUS SIDE.*

THIS MATCH?

青

I'VE WON.

HE DIDN'T SAY HE'LL "WIN," HE'S DECLARED THAT HE'S "WON"! WHAT'S HE BASING THAT ON?

AN UNPRECEDENTED DECLARATION OF VICTORY!

LOOK AT THAT FRESH DAMAGE ON HIS BODY!

BOTH FIGHTERS, TO YOUR MARKS!

HE'S MAKING IT SOUND LIKE HE'S ALREADY THE WINNER OF THIS FIGHT!

THIS MATCH BEGS SO MANY QUESTIONS!

青

...FOUGHT AGAINST KAIO RETSU HERE...
I CAN TELL HOW YOU...

...AND YOU STRUGGLED AGAINST HIM. IT'S AS CLEAR AS DAY.

HEH HEH... I SEE THAT BAKI HAD QUITE THE STRUGGLE.

I ALSO KNOW HOW YOU *WON.*

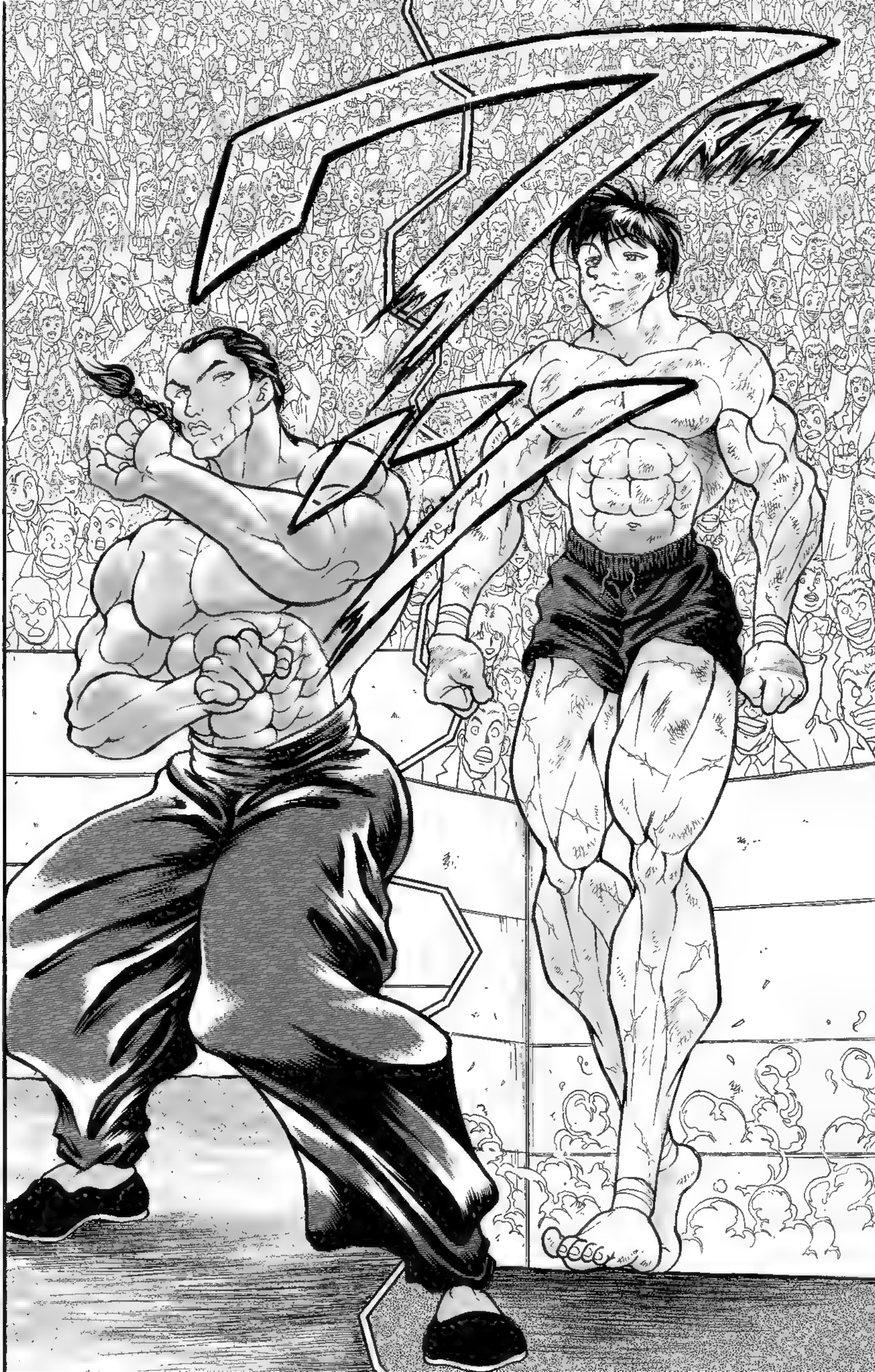
QUESTIONS STILL REMAIN AS THE FIRST ROUND OF THE SEMIFINALS...

BA-BUMP

...IS FINALLY ABOUT TO START!!!

BA-BUMP

BEGIN!



BAKI IS CASUALLY WALKING UP TO RETSU!

UH-OH! THIS IS UNEXPECTED!

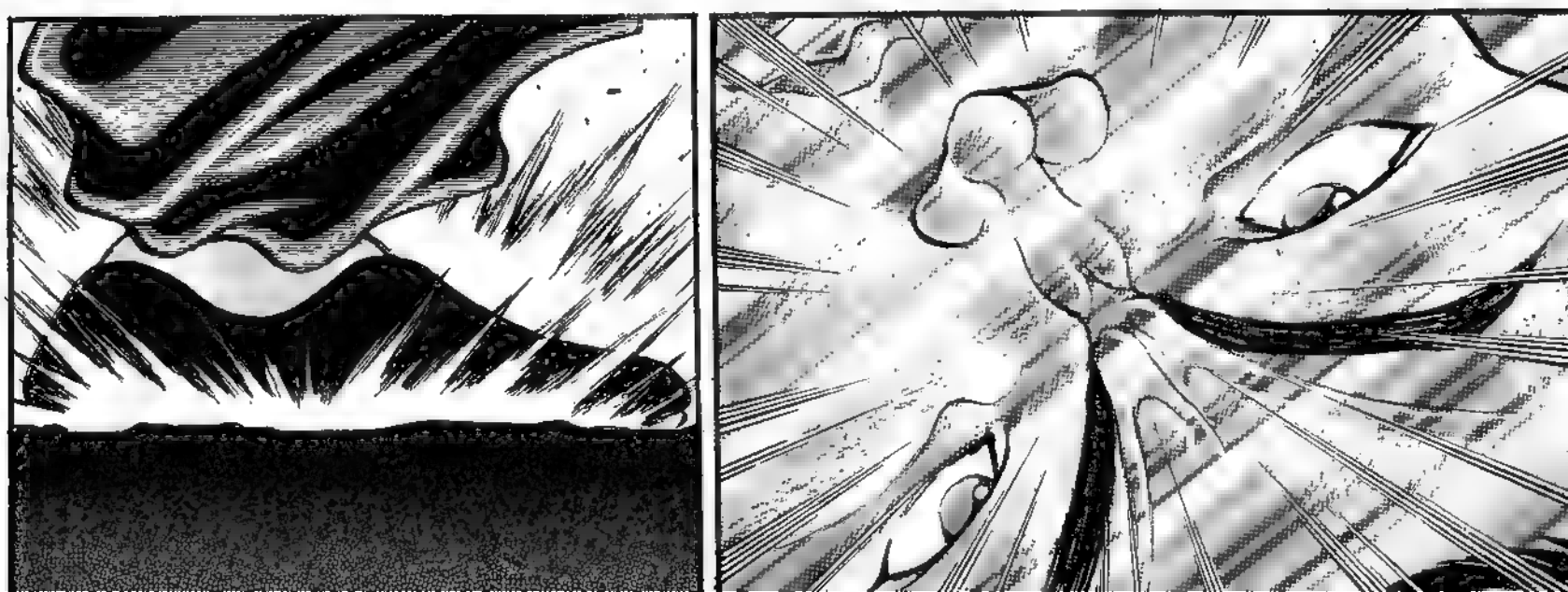
...!!!

...!!!

...!
STEP

TE...

TENRENGE!



HYAH
SHF

I'VE ALREADY EXPERI-ENCED...

YOU BAS-TARD ...!

...EVERY-THING YOU'VE GOT !!!

#319 In Just 4,000 Years

KRAKOW
朱

I CAN'T BELIEVE I...

I...

HE...

HE CONNECTS ...!!!

...I WAS HIT—

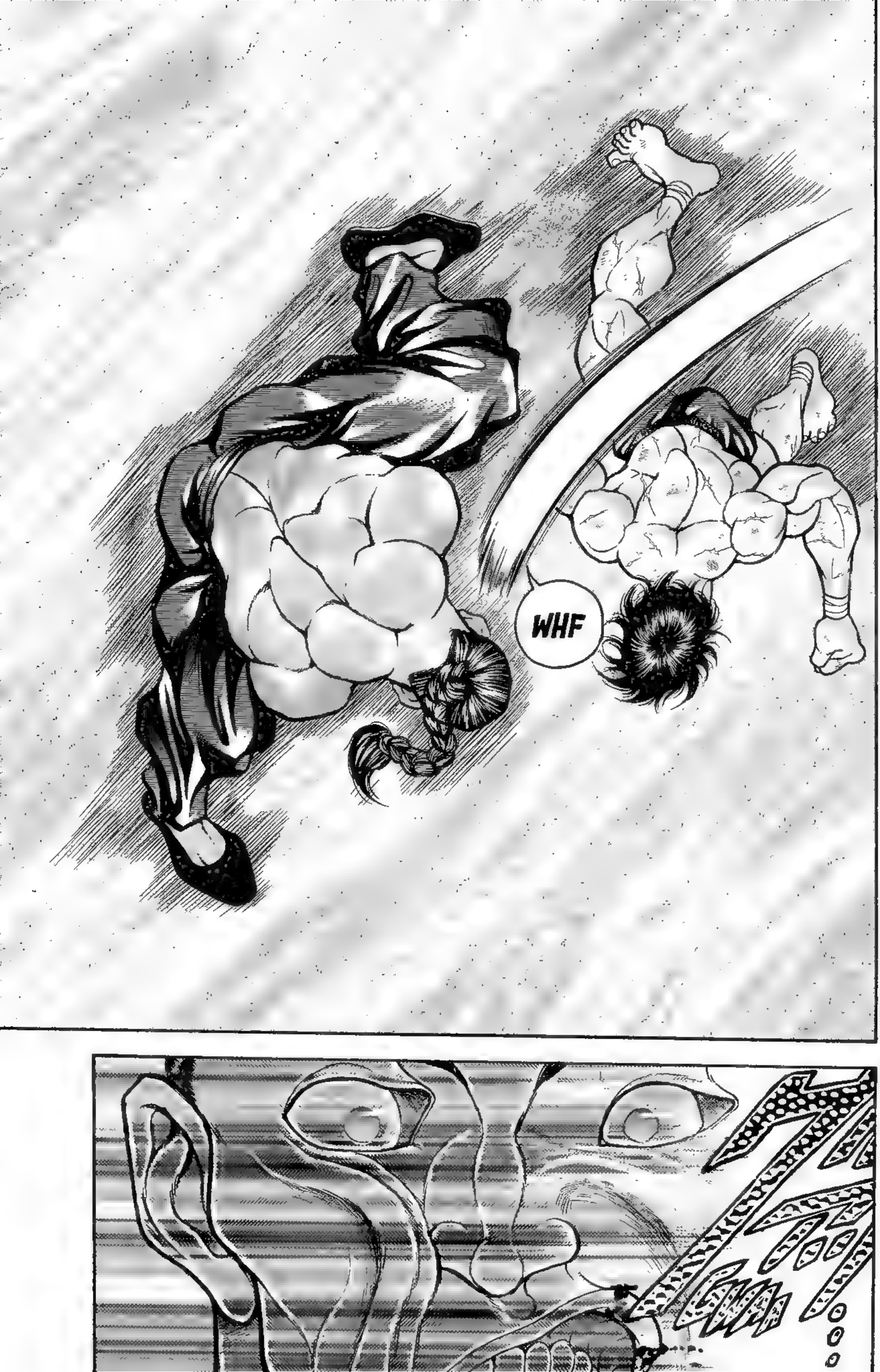
BEFORE OUR EYES FOR THE FIRST TIME, THE MASTER OF FISTS, KAIO RETSU...

OOH!

HAU!

BSH!

ANOTHER HIT LANDS!

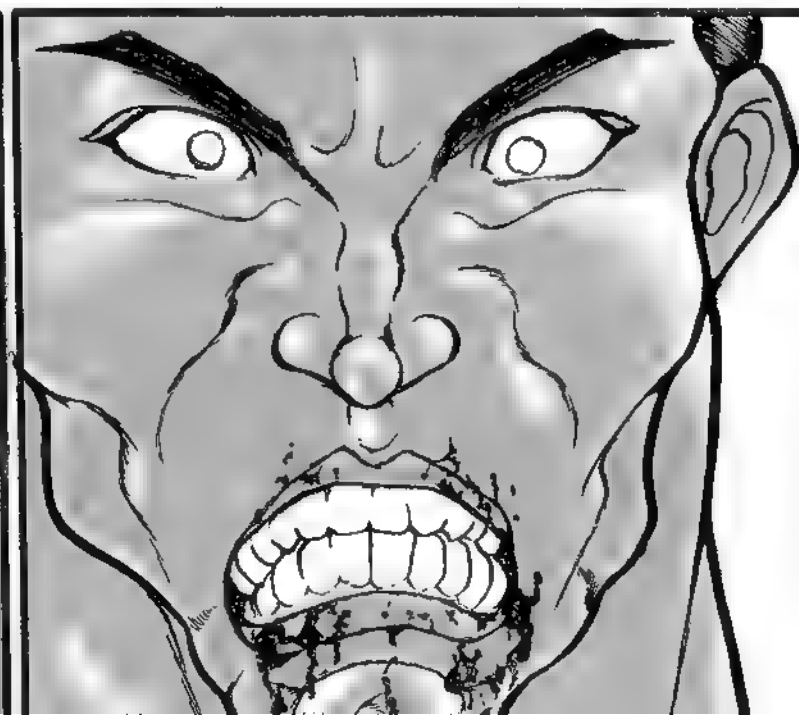

WHF

!!!
HE'S FLYING...
HE'S DOOOOWN !!!
KASHIN

4,000 YEARS OF CHINESE HISTORY COMES CRUMBLING DOWN!
HAI!!!
WHOOSH

HA!
I DIDN'T KNOW BAKI WAS *THAT* STRONG!
HE REALLY *IS* STRONG ...
HE'S SO STRONG !!!
NGH ...
WOW, JUST LIKE *REHEARSAL*. DAMN.

SHIN



INDEED, THIS CAN'T BE YOUR FIRST TIME FIGHTING AGAINST CHINESE KENPO !!!

I *JUST* GOT THROUGH FIGHTING YOU...

DIDN'T I JUST TELL YOU?

RIDICU-LOUS!

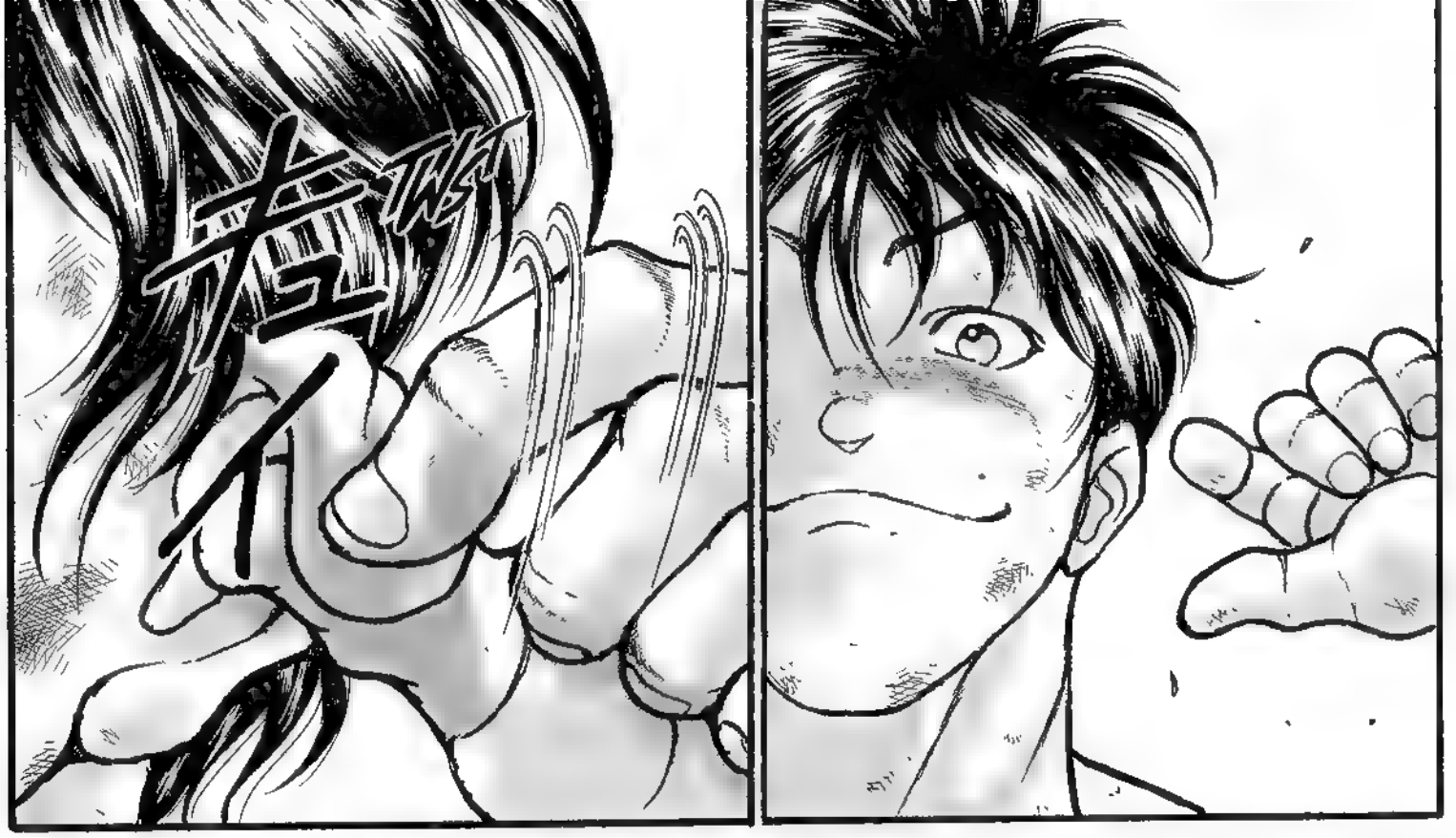
ARE YOU IMPLYING JAPAN HAS KENPO USERS THAT ARE MY EQUAL ?!

LET ME FILL YOU IN ON SOMETHING.

...IN YOUR 4,000 YEARS OF HISTORY...

YOU ALL SEEM TO HAVE A LOT OF FAITH...

BUT THERE'S A ZONE THAT YOU CAN'T REACH IN JUST 4,000 YEARS.

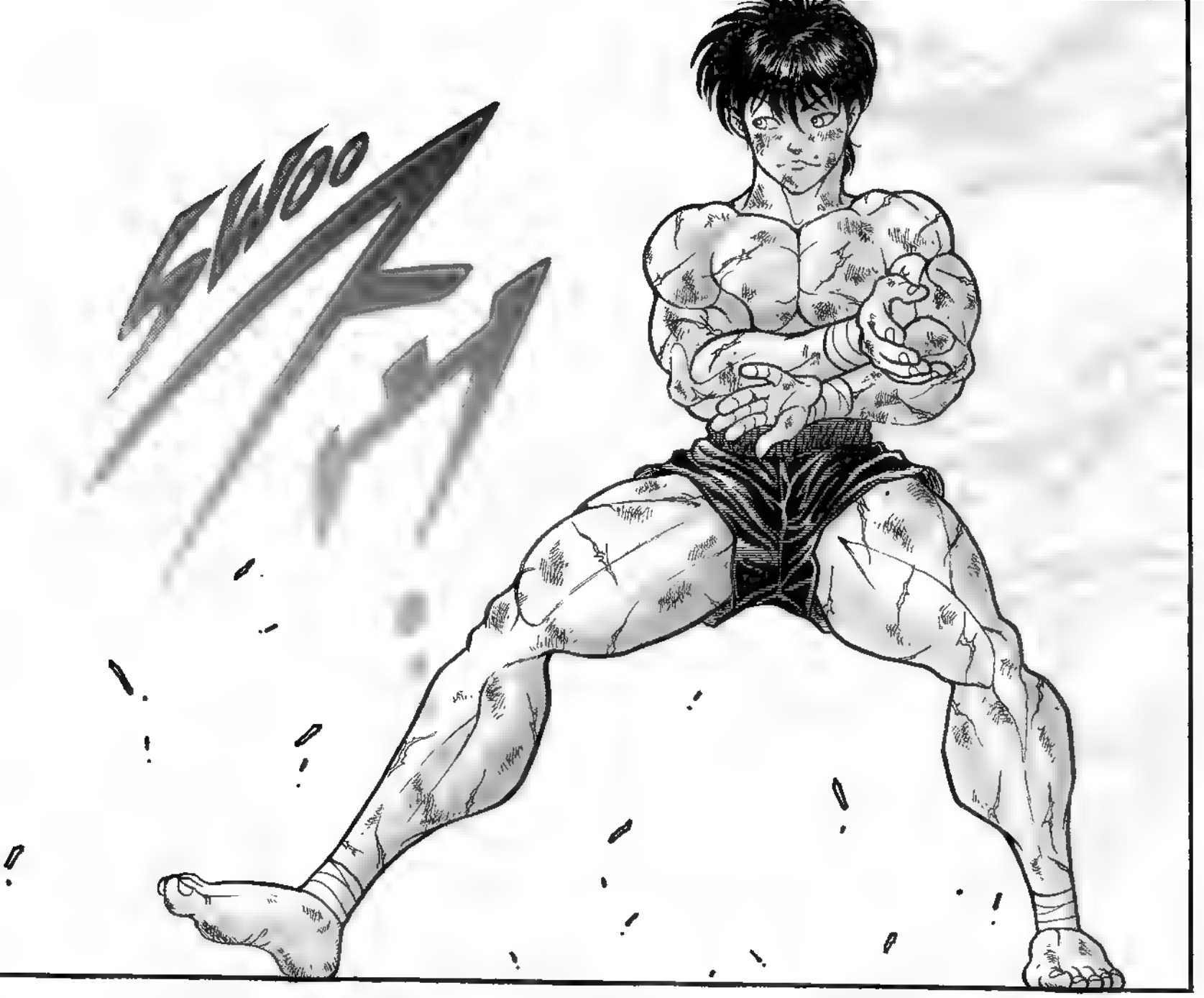

拓 TWIST

BABUMP

SHA-
KIIIN!

IS THAT YOUR SO-CALLED ZONE ?!

HE SECRETED ENDORPHINS HIMSELF?!


SWOO
SWOO
CHINESE KENPO MOVES ...?!

S-SUCH SPEED!

WE CAN'T SEE IT!

OUR EYES CAN'T KEEP TRACK OF IT!!!

PRAP

PRAP

PR

PR

PR

PR

PRAP

PRAP

PRAP

PRAP

PRAP

WOOO

SO YOU GOT COCKY BECAUSE YOU LEARNED HOW TO USE YOUR ENDORPHINS?

NAIVE.

WOOM

#320 Tradition!!

!!!
DOOMF

THE SUNKEI!!!

朱雀

朱雀

...!

神い

HE'S FLYING WELL OVER SIX, NO, SEVEN METERS!!!

AND CRASH LANDS!

KADOOM

DAT

A STRAIGHT PUNCH DELIVERED WHILE MAINTAINING CONTACT WITH THE OPPONENT!!!

ALSO KNOWN AS THE ONE-INCH PUNCH!!!

オオ WOOO オオ

A SHORT RANGE BUT SUPER-POWERED PUNCH FROM ANCIENT CHINA!

THOSE 4,000 YEARS OF HISTORY AREN'T GOING DOWN WITHOUT A FIGHT!!!

青龍

...THE PAIN TRANSFORMS INTO INTOXICATION...

ONCE PHYSICAL PAIN CROSSES A CERTAIN LEVEL...

...AND GIVES THE BODY THE ENDURANCE TO WITHSTAND THE EXPLOSIVE STRAIN.

I'VE HEARD THAT IN RECENT YEARS, THE WESTERN MEDICAL WORLD HAS PROVED THAT THOSE SORTS OF ABILITIES EXIST WITHIN THE HUMAN BODY!

OUR TRAINING IS ROOTED IN THE TRADITION OF MAKING FUKUGEN— RESTORATION— A DAILY PRACTICE !!!

IN ANCIENT CHINESE KENPO, THAT IS KNOWN AS FUKUGEN !!!

THAT'S PRETTY RAD.

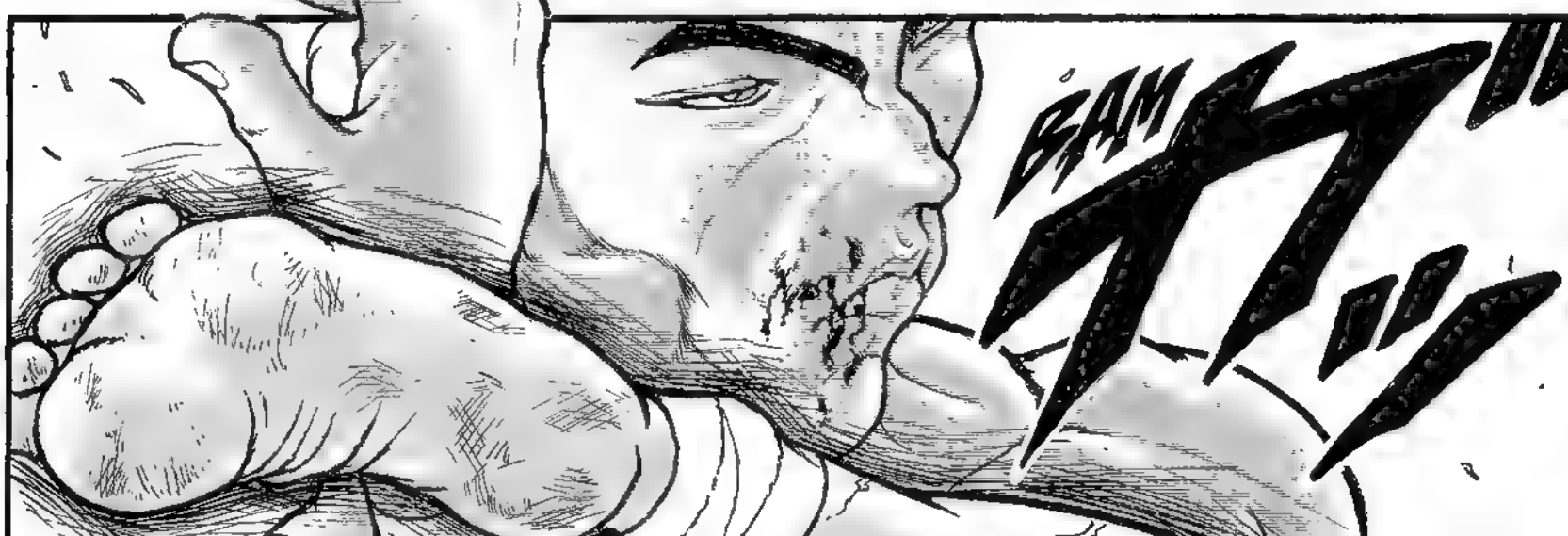
KOFF!

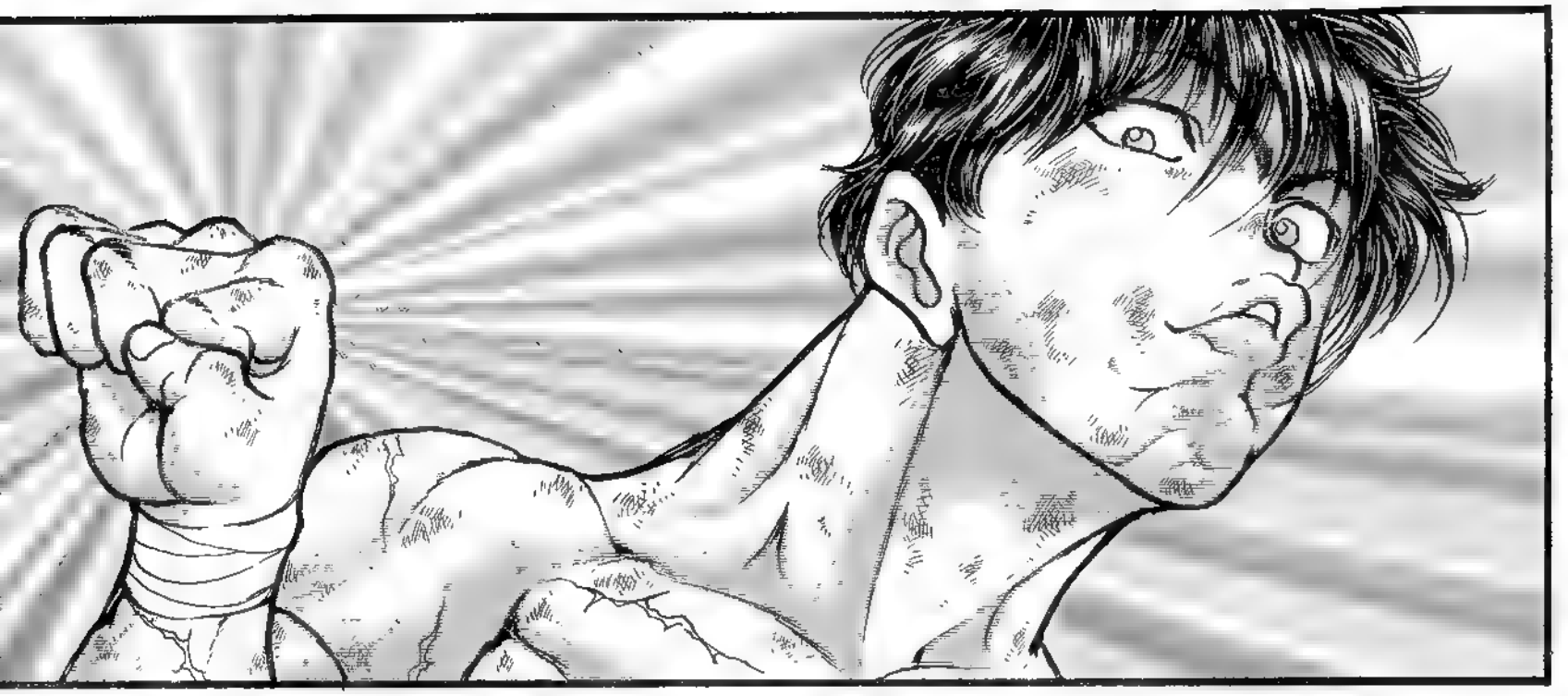
!

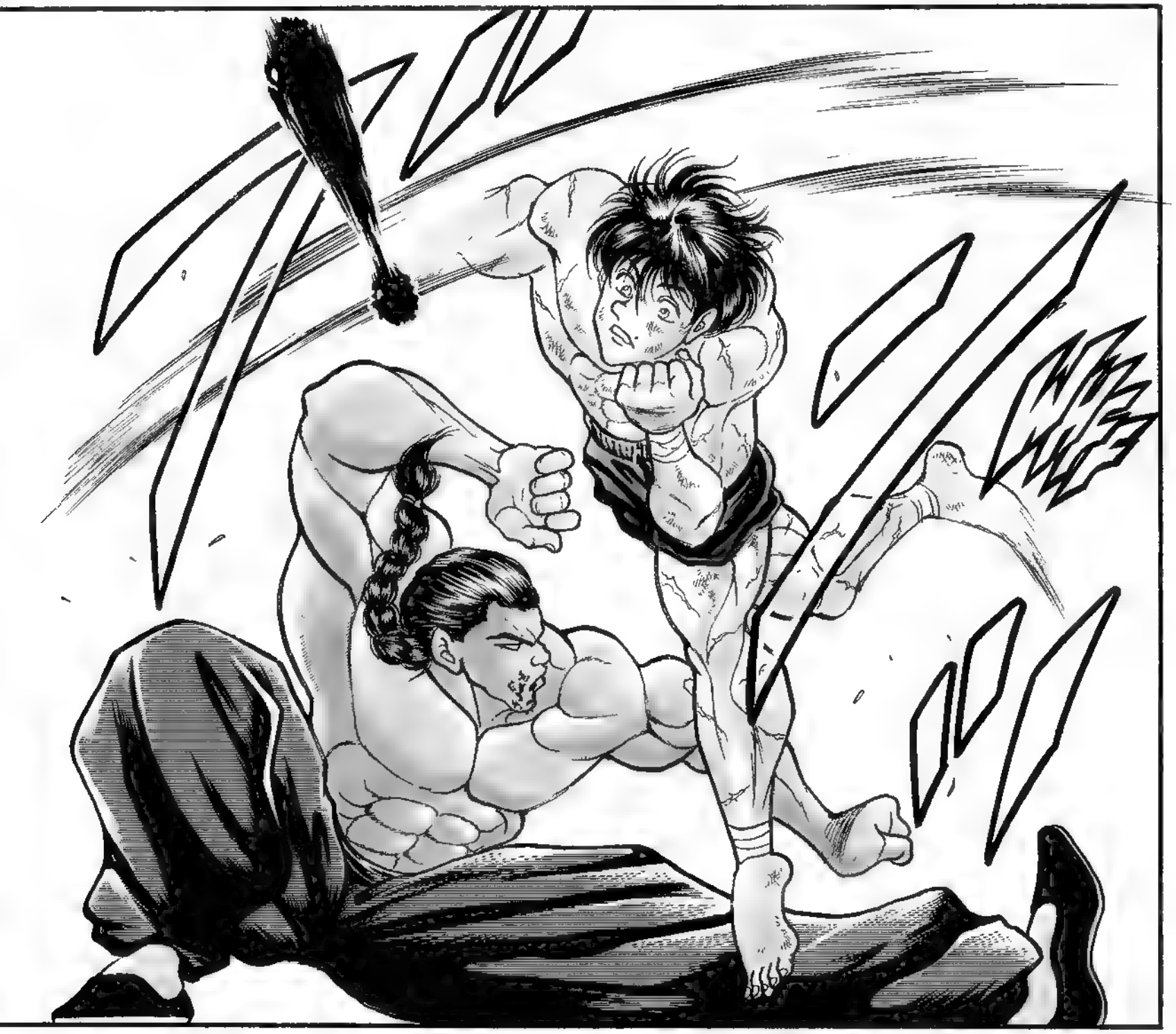
!

AH ...!

WHSH

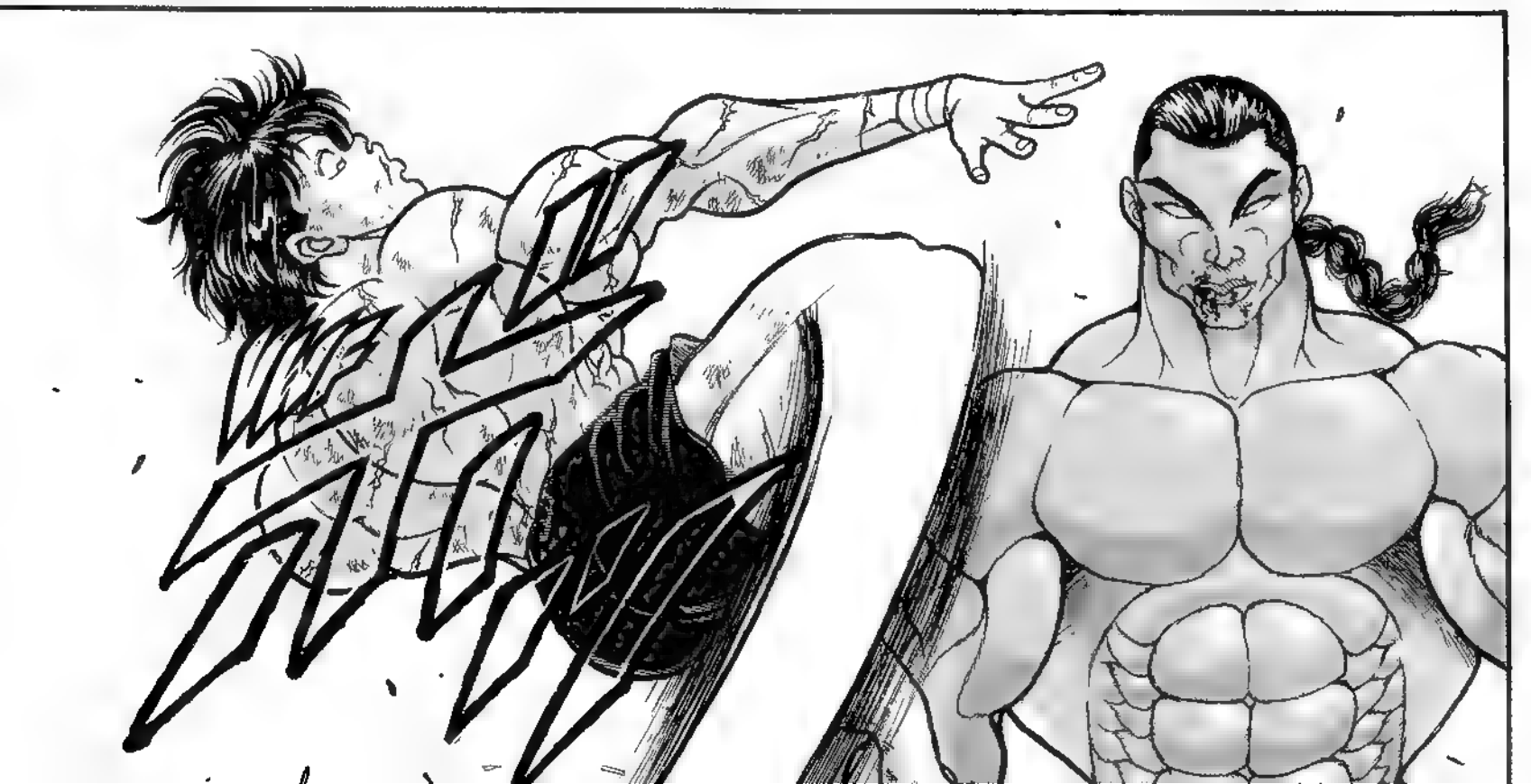

BAM



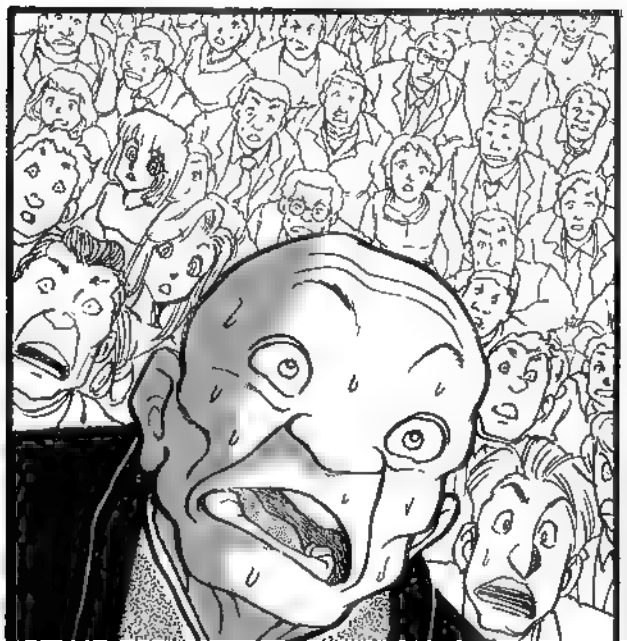


HA!!!

WESH



WHAK



...
虎

NO MATTER WHAT TRICKS YOU PEOPLE PULL, YOU WILL NEVER STAND A CHANCE.

DOOMF

THE TRUE MEANING BEHIND MY DECLARATION IN THE FIRST ROUND— THE LEVEL THAT ALL OF YOU ARE AT, WE SURPASSED 3,000 YEARS AGO.

THEY WERE MEANT FOR ALL THOSE ENTERED IN THIS TOURNAMENT— NO, FOR ALL MARTIAL ARTISTS OUTSIDE OF CHINA WHO STUDY OUR KENPO!!!

THOSE WORDS WERE NOT MEANT SOLELY FOR SERGEI!

YAMA

YAMA

YAMA

THAT IS WHAT YOU PEOPLE CALL THAT PATH.

THE SILK ROAD.

#321 Chinese Kenpo vs. Pankration!!

THAT IS WHAT YOU PEOPLE CALL THAT PATH.
朱雀
THE SILK ROAD.
朱雀

THE MIXED MARTIAL ART THAT HAD THE SUPPORT OF MANY DURING THE TIME OF THE ANCIENT ROMANS, *PANKRATION*, EXISTS NO LONGER.

BECAUSE IT TURNED INTO A SIMPLE *SPECTACLE* WITH MATCHES BETWEEN MAN AND BEAST.

...AND ESCALATED TO THE POINT OF BEING DEATH-MATCHES...

BECAUSE THE FIGHTING WAS FIERCE...

...BUT *NONE* OF THEM ARE BASED IN FACT.

THERE HAVE BEEN MANY PLAUSIBLE REASONS SPOKEN OF IN HISTORY BOOKS...

THERE IS ONLY ONE TRUTH.

...BUT US CHINESE INSTEAD.

IT WAS BECAUSE THE CHAMPIONS WERE NOT NATIVE ROMANS...

...

...

どよ YAMMR

どよ YAMMR

どよ YAMMR

THE HISTORY OF *PANKRATION* VERSUS *CHINESE KENPO*...

...STEMS FROM THE FOREMOST KUNG-FU FIGHTER AT THE TIME, *KAIO RI*, FIGHTING A TRAVELING ROMAN FIGHTER, *DRIAS*.

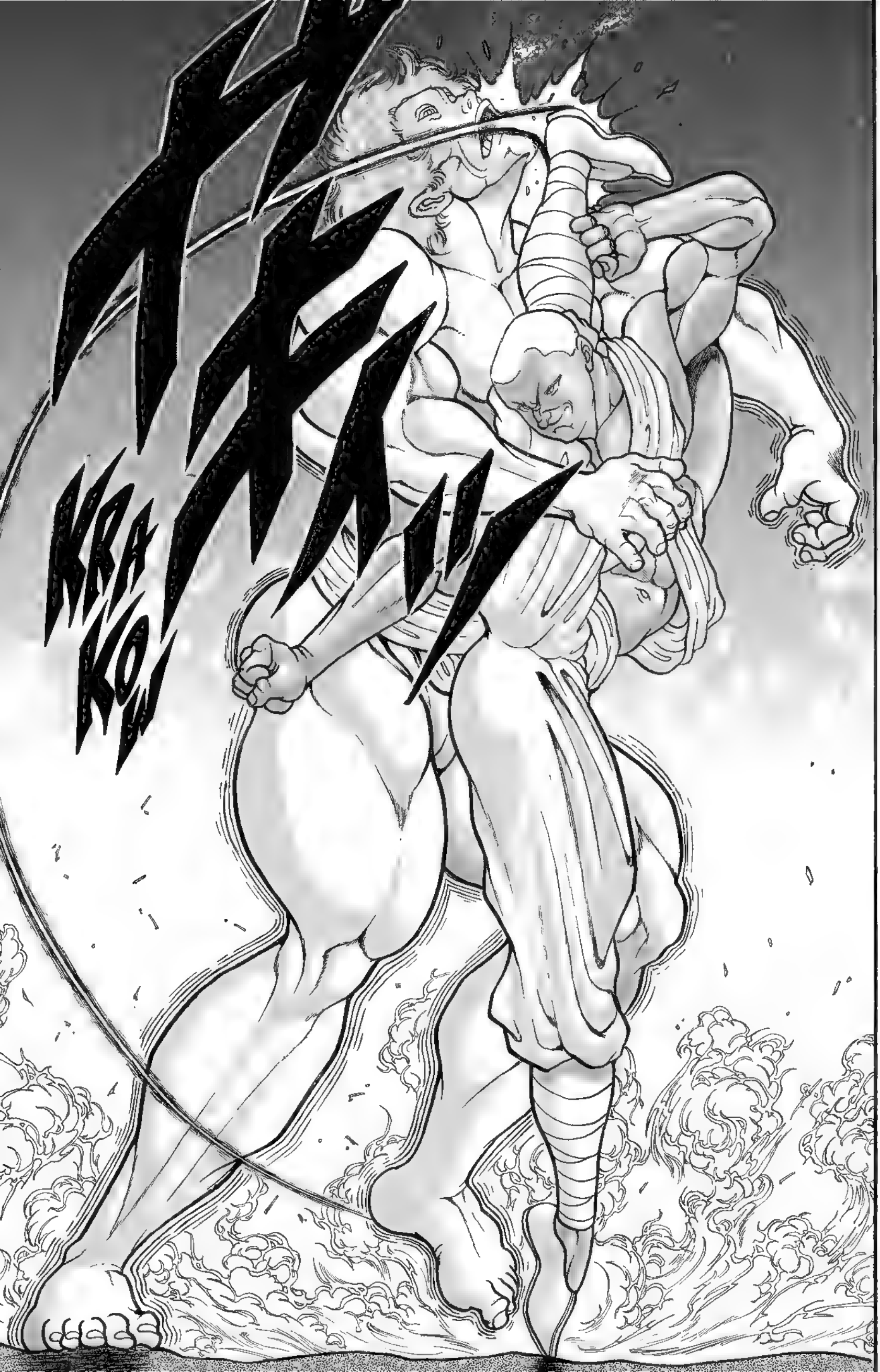
YOU SAY YOU'RE THEIR CHAMPION?

I DIDN'T KNOW THEY HAD FIST FIGHTING IN CHINA TOO.

SHOW ME. HOW DOES ONE FIGHT WITH A BODY LIKE YOURS, AS THIN AS A ROSE STEM?

!

COME AT ME.


KRA
KO!

WOOO

THE HISTORY OF CHINESE KENPO'S BATTLES WITH PANKRATION STARTED HERE.

AS A RESULT OF THAT FIGHT, CHINESE KENPO ARTISTS TRAVERSED THAT ROAD, ONE AFTER THE OTHER.

SOMETIMES, INEXPERIENCED PRACTITIONERS WOULD BE OVER-WHELMED BY THEIR OPPONENTS' PHYSICAL STATURE AND SUFFER DEFEAT...

AFTER MUCH DILIGENT TRAINING...

...BUT OUR PEOPLE POSSESS A TENACITY FOR PURSUING ALL THINGS ROOTED IN INSTINCT...

...SUCH AS FIGHTING, EATING, AND SEX. IT IS A PERSEVERANCE THAT NO OTHER NATION CAN MATCH.

...WE HARDENED OURSELVES INTO A WALL THAT NOT EVEN THE ROMANS COULD OVERCOME.

AND AS FOR THAT ROAD...

THE PROUD ROMANS FEARED THE PRACTITIONERS OF KUNG-FU, CALLING US "ORIENTAL DRAGONS."

...BY CALLING IT THE *DRAGON ROAD.*

...THEY CAME TO LOATHE IT...

REALIZING THAT VICTORY FOR THEIR OWN PEOPLE WAS *IMPOSSIBLE*, THE ROMAN PEOPLE WOULD EVENTUALLY END THE HISTORY OF PANKRATION BY *THEIR OWN HANDS.*

青

...

DO YOU KNOW WHAT THIS MEANS?

I'VE REMOVED MY GLOVES.

#322 The Devil Fist, Kaio Retsu!!

SOMETHING MUST BE AFOOT!!!
KAIO RETSU HAS REMOVED HIS SHOES FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THIS TOURNAMENT!!!
HE'S BAREFOOT !!!
朱雀

THE ACT OF A KENPO ARTIST TAKING OFF THEIR KUNG-FU SHOES...

...TO BATTLE WITH BARE FISTS.

...IS SIMILAR TO A BOXER DISCARDING THEIR GLOVES...

ME GOING BAREFOOTED...

...IS
JUST THAT
DANGEROUS.

WHAT IS THIS?!

HE GRABBED HIS HAIR WITH HIS TOES!

KRAK
KRAK

THERE'S A KNEE!

WHAT ASTONISHING FOOT STRIKES!

SHWOO

!!!
...

THE JAPANESE ARE INTERESTING INDEED.

HEH HEH...

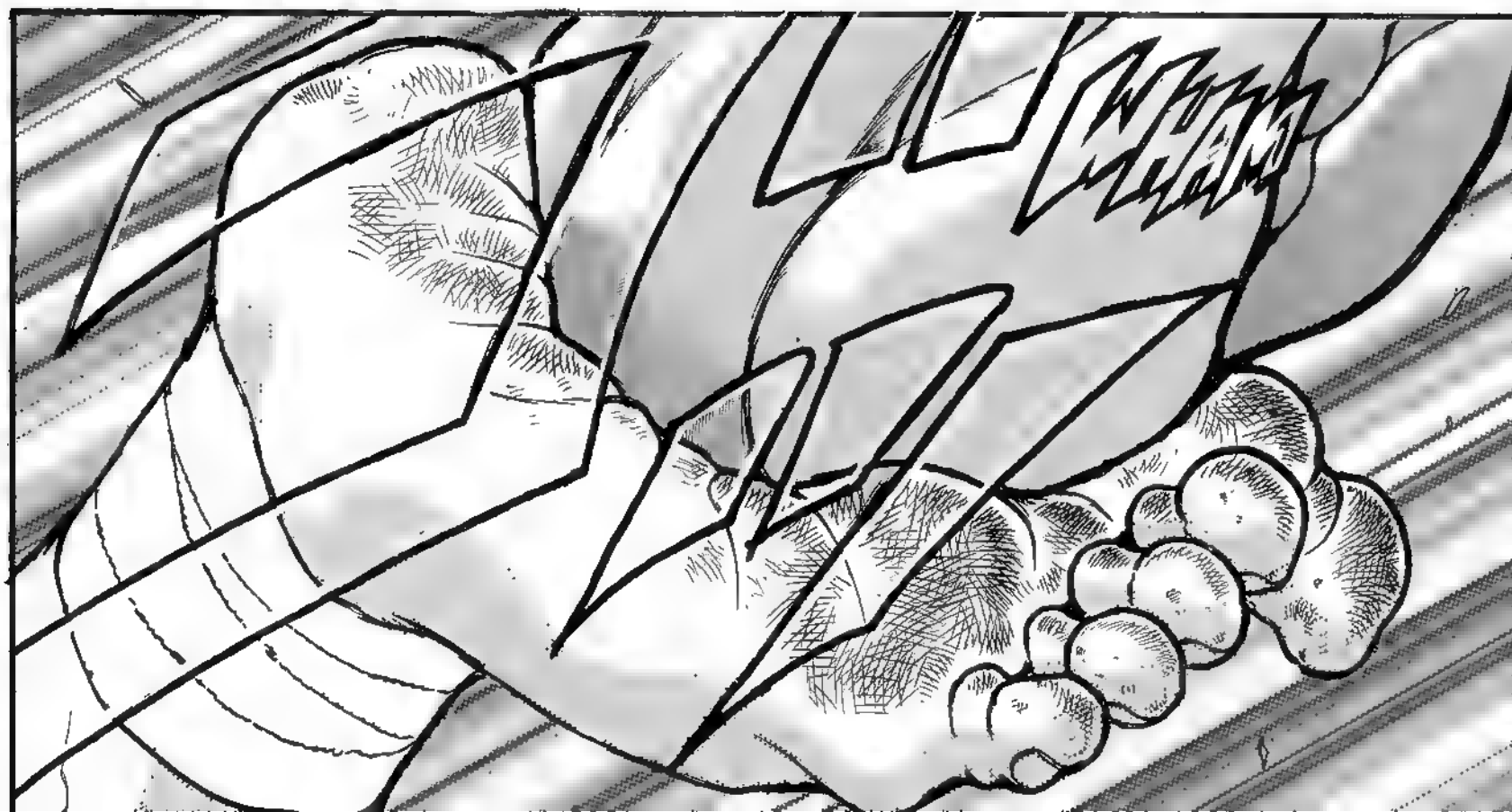
THE MODERN LOW KICK BEAT BY ANCIENT CHINESE KENPO!

TUG

HIS LOW KICKS HAVE BEEN COUNTERED !!!

THEY GET WHIPPED INTO AN UPROAR OVER SUCH TRIVIAL TECHNIQUES.

WASH



THIS IS INTENSE!

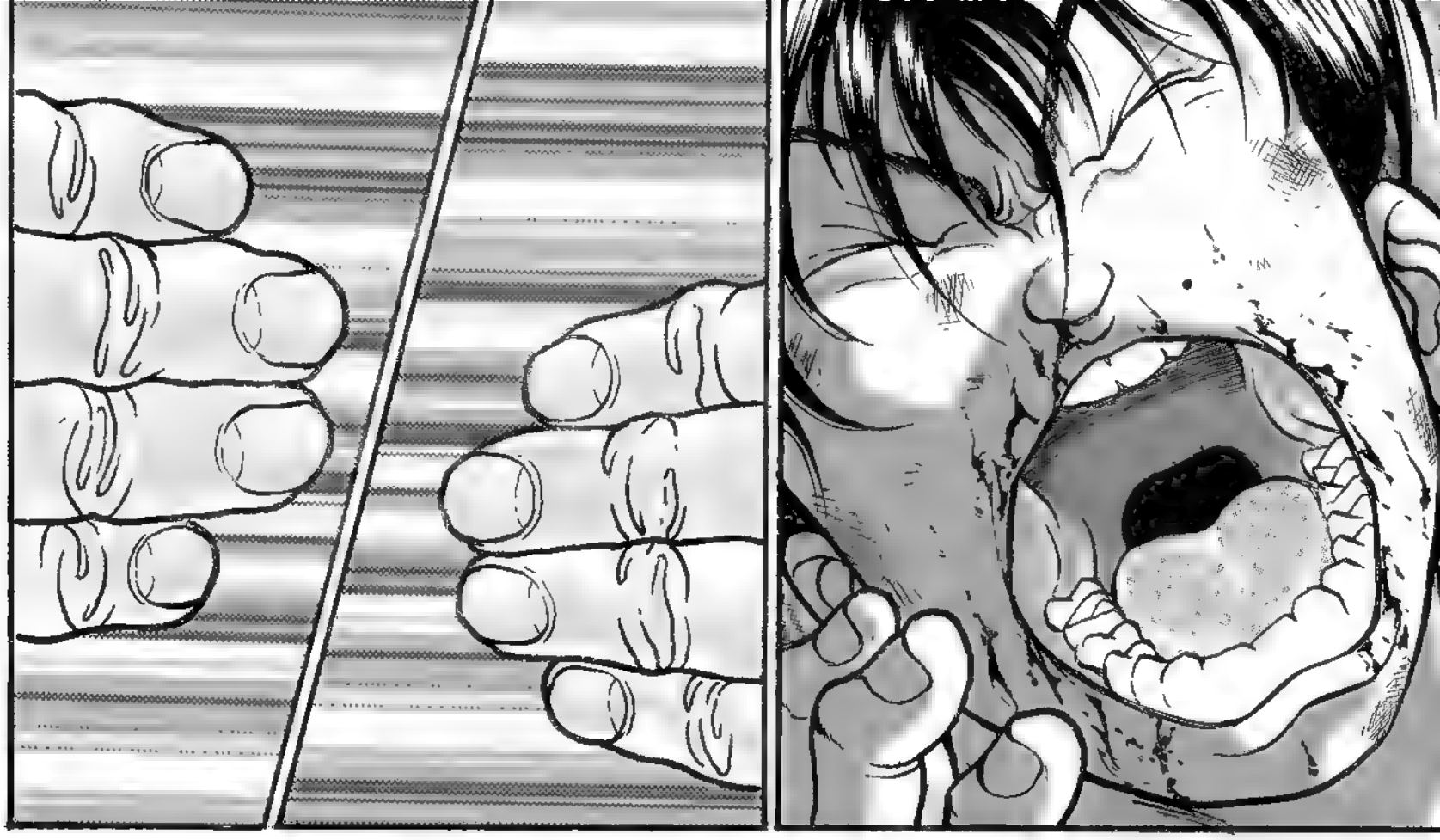
...GETS MET WITH AN IRON ELBOW!

THAT LAST DITCH SPINNING-BACK KICK...

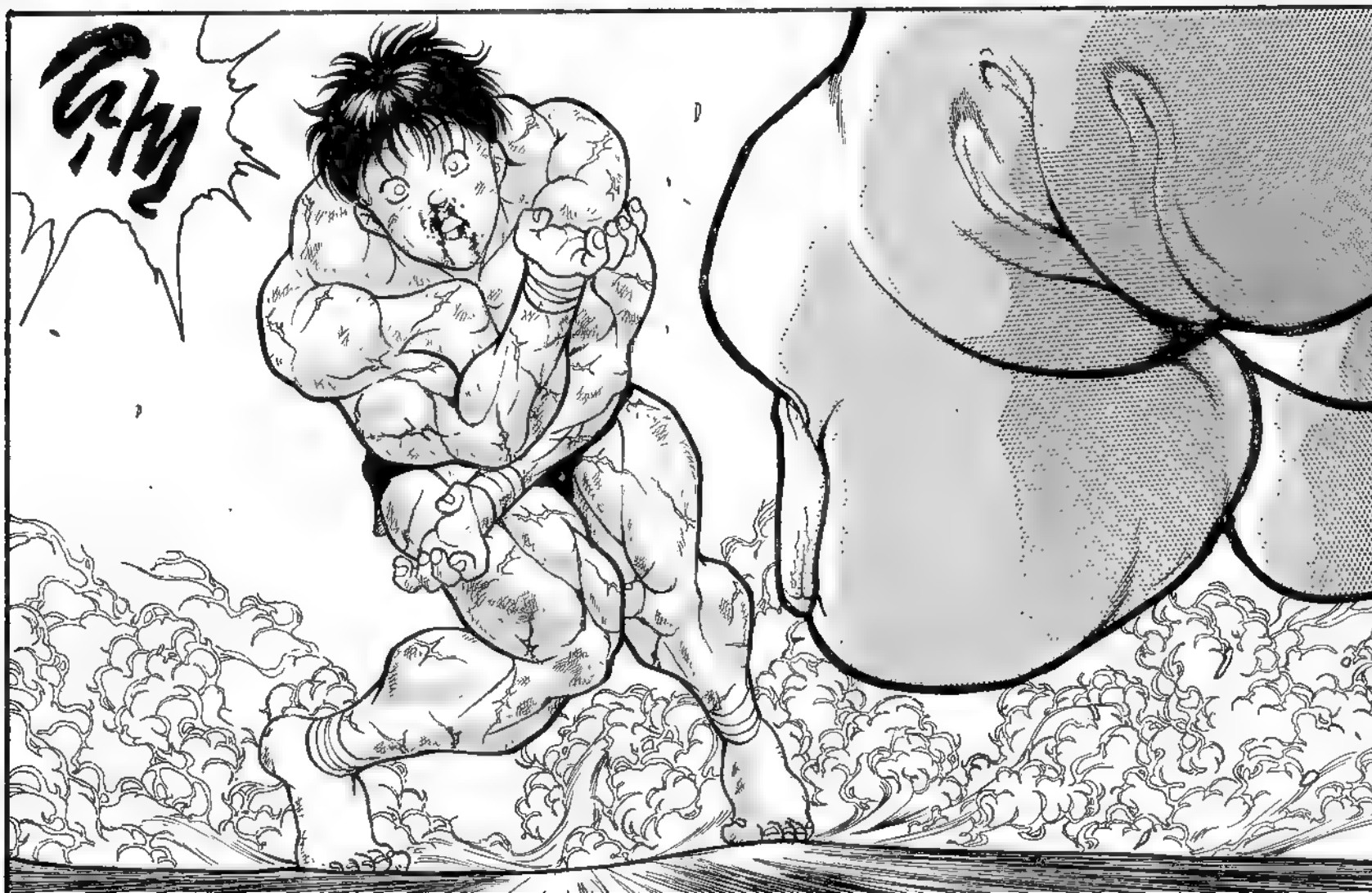
虎

"ASTONISHING FOOT STRIKES"?

PWSH
IF YOU WERE TO CALL ANYTHING...
...AN "ASTONISHING FOOT STRIKE"...
BWF



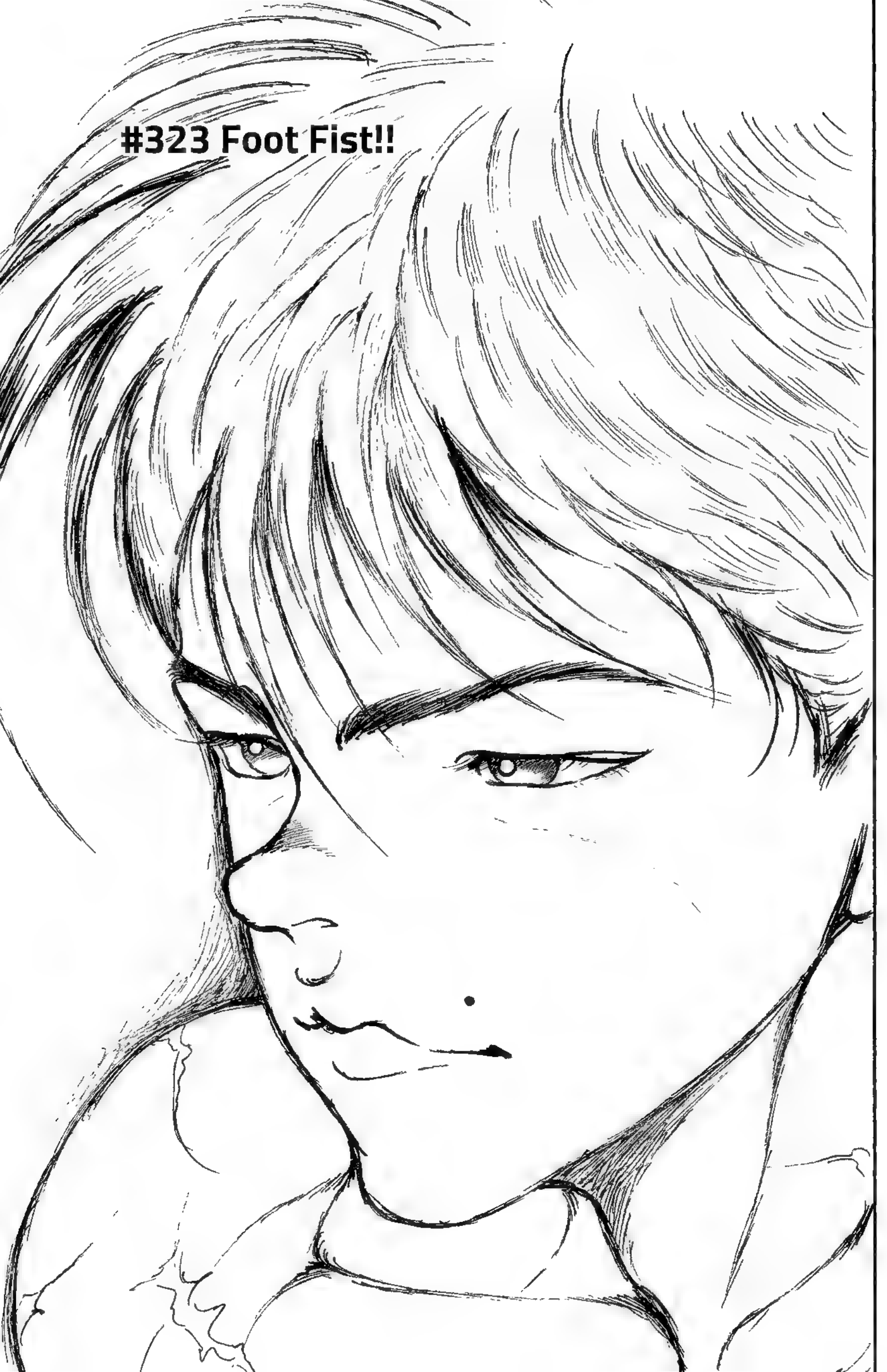
Stoof


Ugh

...YOU SHOULD SAVE THOSE WORDS...

...FOR A STRIKE LIKE THIS!!!

#323 Foot Fist!!

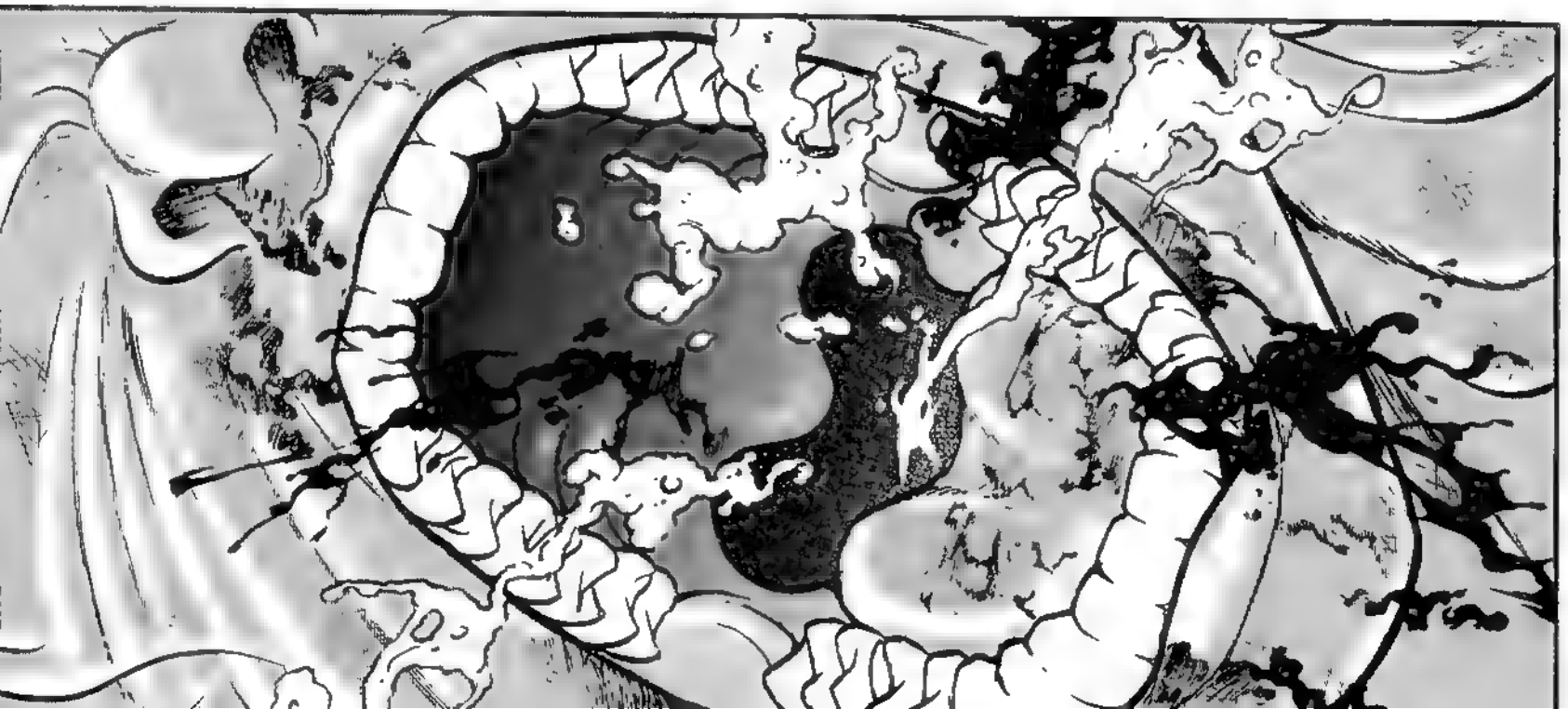


WHAT AN INTENSE THROAT KICK!!!
PLUK...

HE'S...!

HE'S DOOOOWN !!!

SHUMP



...HIS KICKS ARE VARIED AND SHARP!!!

NOW THAT KAIO RETSU HAS CAST ASIDE HIS SHOES...

THEY'RE JUST AS VERSATILE AS HAND STRIKES !!!

4,000 YEARS OF CHINESE HISTORY IS A FORCE TO BE RECKONED WITH!!!

IS KAIO RETSU SIMPLY INVINCIBLE ?!

竜

...IS ON ANOTHER LEVEL.

ALL THAT HISTORY...

...WITH HIS FOOT...

HE MADE A FIST...

BAKI HAS TAKEN CRITICAL DAMAGE!

...!

THE INVINCIBLE MAN IS ON THE MOVE!

SHINK

SHINK

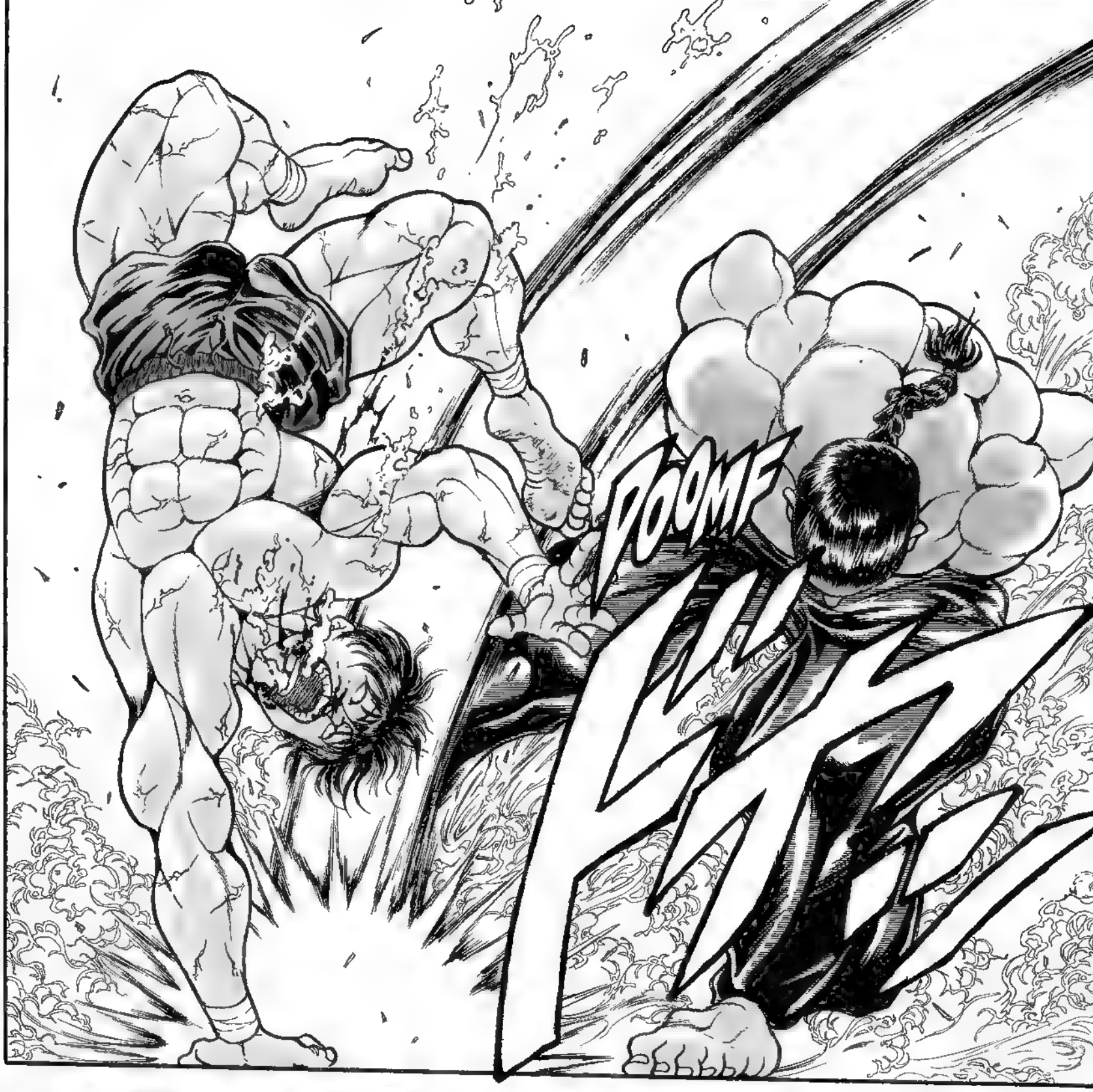
SHINK

WHA...?!

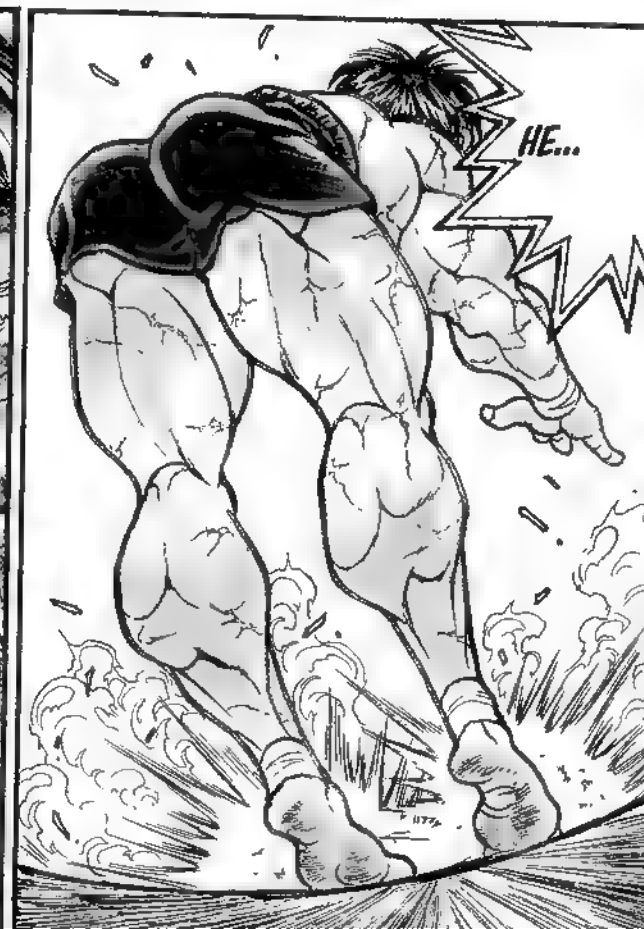
HE'S BOUND HIS HANDS WITH HIS SASH?!

WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THIS?!

HERE COMES THE FINISHING KICK!


POOMF

HE DODGED IT!


HE...

DOOM!

A PURSUIT ATTACK!

H-HE NARROWLY BLOCKS—

COMBO KICKS!!!

COMBO KICKS!

KAIO RETSU !!!

COMBO KICKS!

HE'S CLOSING IN ON THE KILL WITH JUST FOOT STRIKES!!!

BAKI'S BLOCK IS EFFORTLESSLY ...

...FLICKED AWAY!

HE NAILS THE THROAAAAT!

WELL...

WELL, THIS SURE DOES SUCK.

HA!

SHUMP

白虎

IF IT'S *THIS* MUCH...

IF THINGS ARE *THIS MUCH* LIKE I REHEARSED...

#324 Preconceptions!!

...
WOOOOO

I WAS FULLY READY FOR A FEW DISCREPANCIES ...

HE'S GETTING UP!!!

BAKI IS MOVING !!!

...BUT IF THINGS ARE *THIS MUCH* LIKE I REHEARSED...

PFT

...IT WON'T BE FAIR.

I'LL CLARIFY.

...

HE SAID *HE FINISHED HIS REHEARSAL* FOR HIS MATCH WITH KAIO RETSU.

THE WORDS THAT BAKI HAS BEEN REPEATING EVER SINCE THE START OF THIS MATCH...

...WAS NONE OTHER THAN *KAIO RETSU HIMSELF!!!*

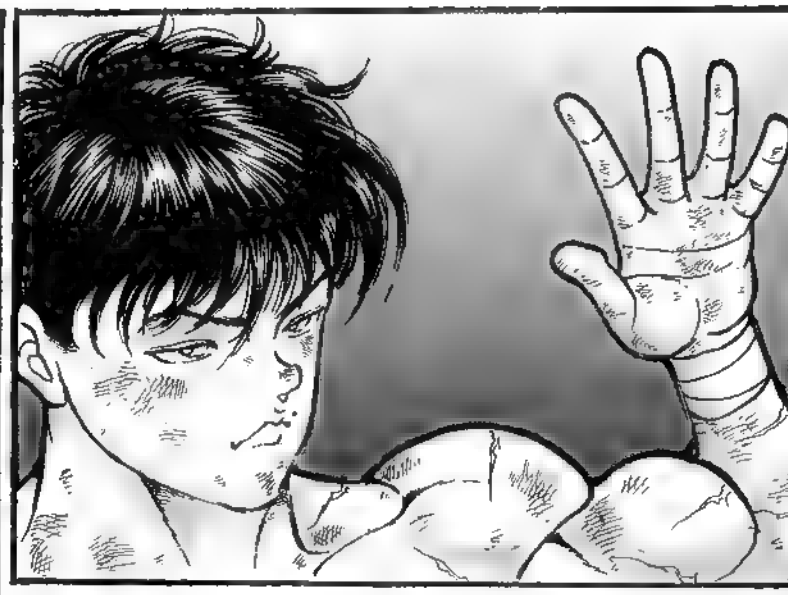
PLUS, HIS OPPONENT IN SAID REHEARSAL...

...HAS NOW BECOME CLEAR!!!

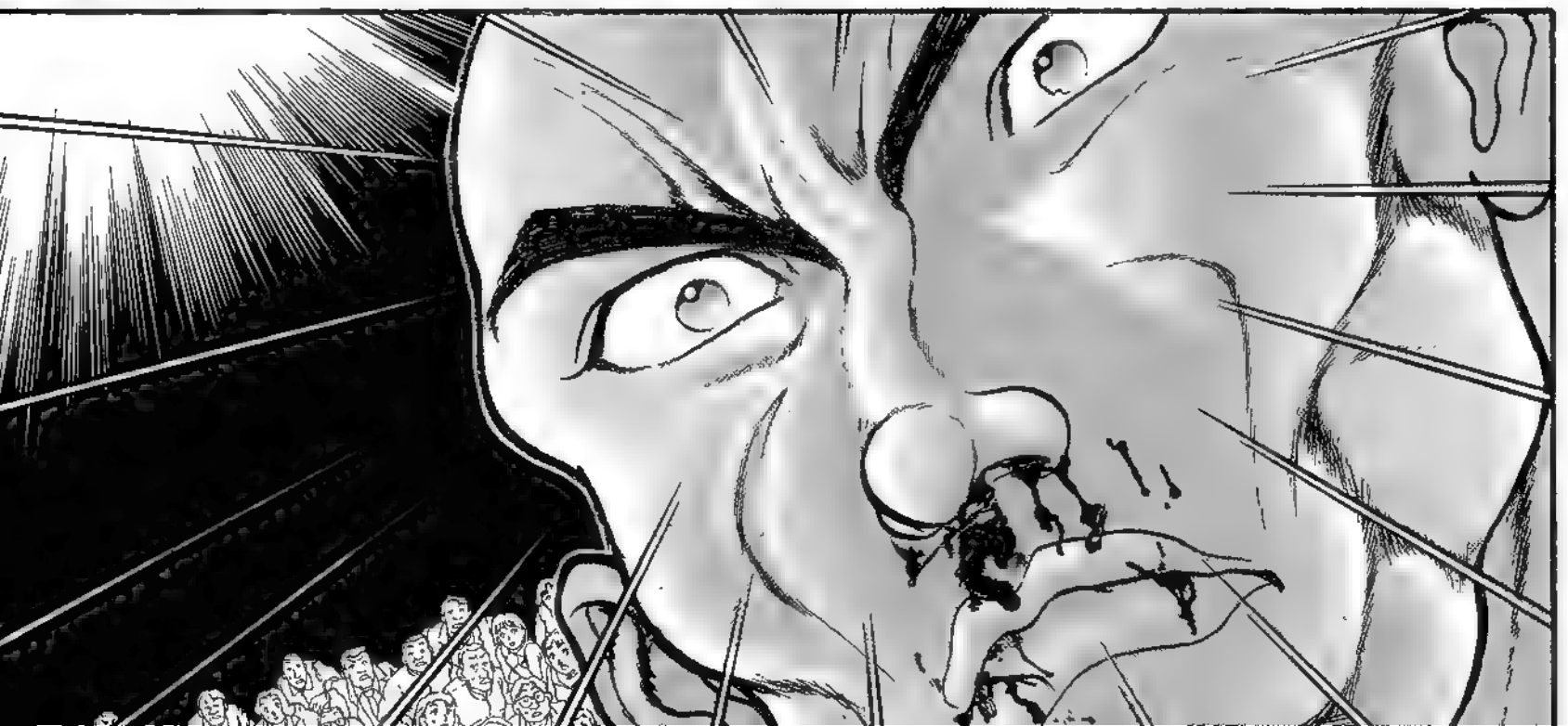
THE TRUE MEANING BEHIND THOSE WORDS...

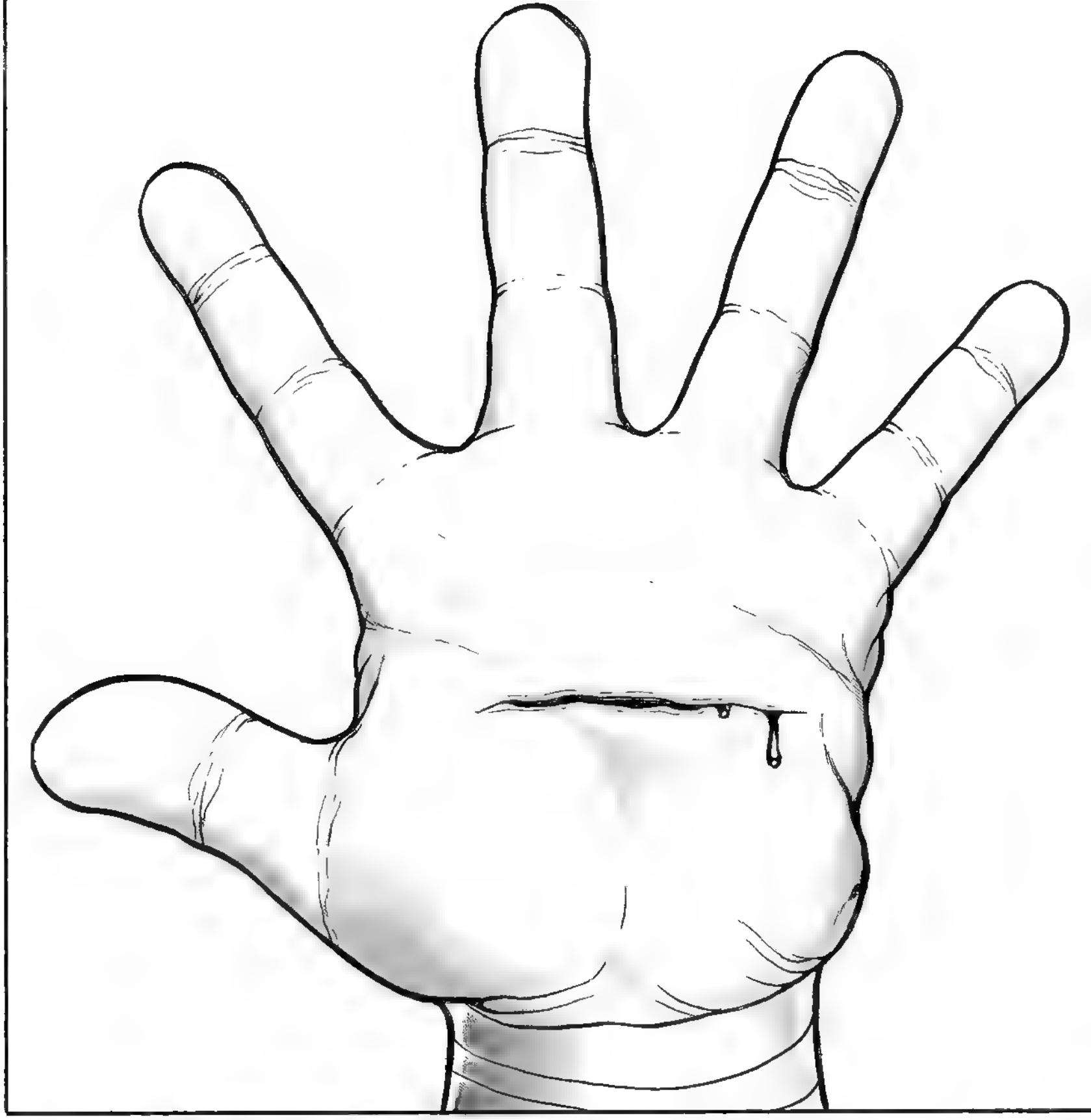
竜

青
竜
牙



SHK
• • • • • •





...!!!

A CASE OF RAZOR WIND...?
RABBL
RABBL

WHAT'S THAT...?
HE'S BLEED-ING...

LET'S SAY THAT ONE DAY, AN INFANT LEARNS THAT FIRE TONGS IN AN INCENSE POT ARE HOT.

...AND EXPERIENCES REAL PAIN.

...THE TODDLER MISTAKENLY BELIEVES THEY'VE BEEN BURNED...

WHEN AN ADULT MAKES THE INFANT TOUCH THE TONGS WHEN THEY'RE NOT HOT AS A JOKE...

HERE IT COMES! HOT STUFF!

...BLISTERS FORMING ON THE INFANT'S HANDS.

IN EXTREME CASES, THERE ARE EVEN RECORDS OF..

青竜
THAT'S THE POWER OF *PRECONCEP-TIONS.*
青竜

WHEN PEOPLE IMAGINE...

...BECOMES REAL.

...SOMETHING SO VIVIDLY THAT IT ACTUALLY...

ドクン

SHOCK

THAT'S GOTTA BE A *TRICK.*

THAT CAN'T BE...

AS INTENSELY AS I COULD, I IMAGINED A BLADE CUTTING MY PALM.

IT'S ONLY NATURAL THAT NONE OF YOU CAN DO THAT.

BECAUSE THE NOTION THAT YOUR THOUGHTS WILL NEVER MANIFEST INTO REALITY...

...IS *FAR* MORE INTENSE.

TO USE WEIGHT TRAINING AS AN EXAMPLE ...

...IF ONE PERSON IMAGINES THEIR TARGET PHYSIQUE...

...AND ANOTHER DOESN'T...

...TEST DATA SHOWS THAT THERE WILL BE AN OVERWHELMING GAP IN THEIR RESULTS, EVEN IF THEY GO THROUGH THE EXACT SAME TRAINING REGIMENT.

IF YOU KEEP ON DOING THIS SORT OF IMAGE TRAINING...

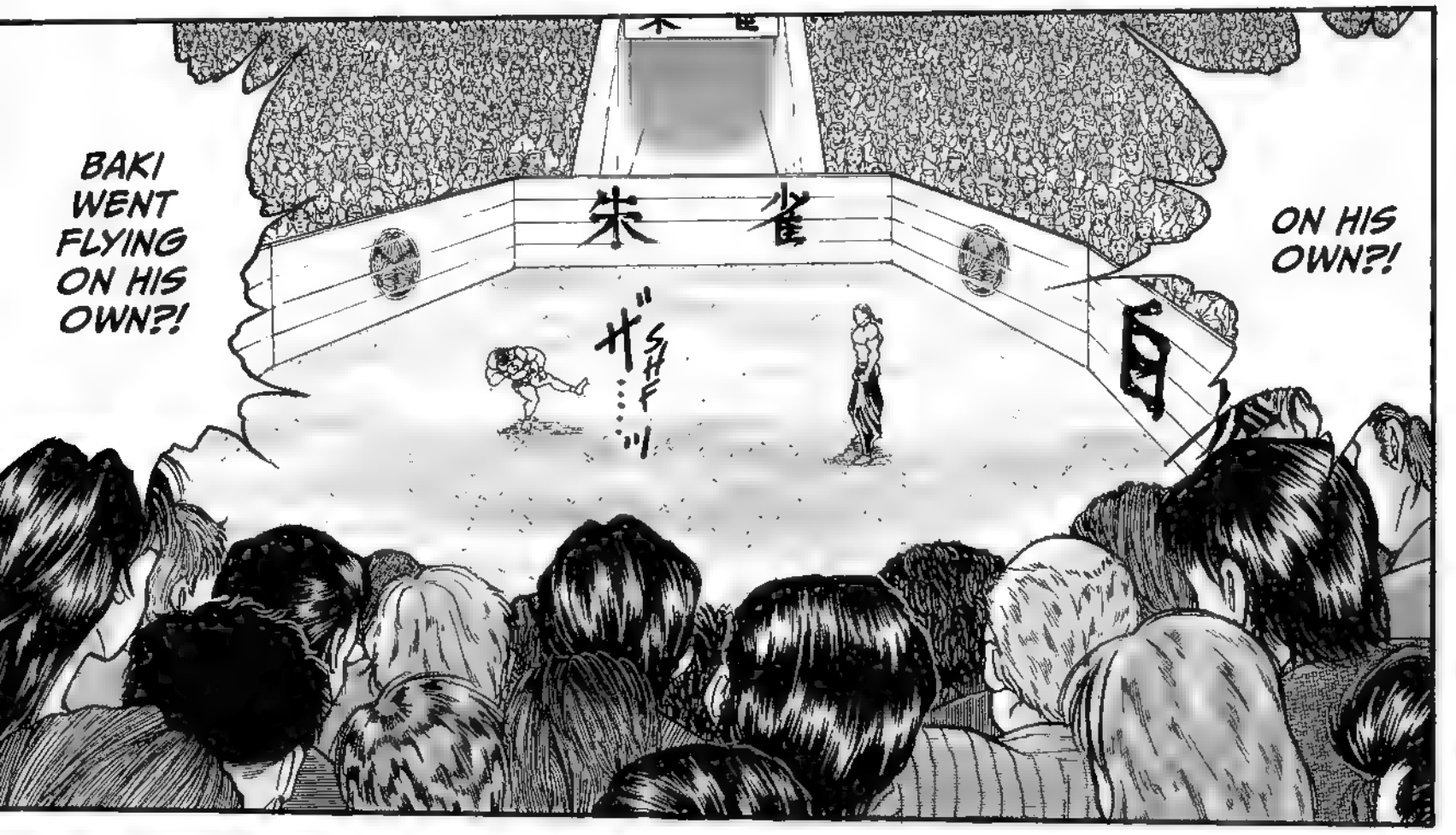
...YOU CAN DO THINGS LIKE *THIS*.

BAKI'S HEAD JUST RATTLED...

...

WHAT?!

TSSS.
A FRESH NOSEBLEED ...
ONE MORE SHOT...


BAKI WENT FLYING ON HIS OWN?!
朱雀
ON HIS OWN?!
ザ SHF……

HE'S ACCRUING MORE DAMAGE!

HE'S GOT MORE WOUNDS !!!
HE'S BLEED-ING!!!

...MASTER IT...

AND IF YOU...

...THIS HAPPENS!

THIS CAN'T BE...!!!

#325 Shadow Fight!!

BAKI IS SUDDENLY LOCKED INTO A MYSTERIOUS FIGHT!!!
WHAT IS GOING ON WITH BAKI THE GRAPPLER?!
武

HE'S FIGHTING!

HE'S FIGHTING!

HOWEVER!

BAKI IS FIGHTING!

HOWEVER, TO US...!

TO OUR EYES, IT LOOKS LIKE...

...BAKI IS BY HIMSELF !!!

BAKI IS FIGHTING ALONE!

宋

宋

TH-THERE'S NO WAY!

WOOO

...!!!

HOWEVER, EVEN THOUGH HE'S SUPPOSED TO BE BY HIMSELF, FROM HIS MOVEMENTS...

...IT'S LIKE AN INVISIBLE OPPONENT ...

...!!!

...AND FROM HIS EXPRESSION ...

...HAS COME TO LIFE...

...AND IS ACTUALLY BATTLING HIM!!!

SKRK

BAKI COUNTER ATTACKS! IT LOOKS LIKE A CLEAN HIT!!!

A RIGHT LOW!

THE OPPONENT DELIVERS A LOW OF HIS OWN!

BUT BAKI JUMPS!!!

BAKI CHASES HIM DOWN!

A SPINNING BACK KIIIICK!!!

!!!

...!

DOOOOWN!

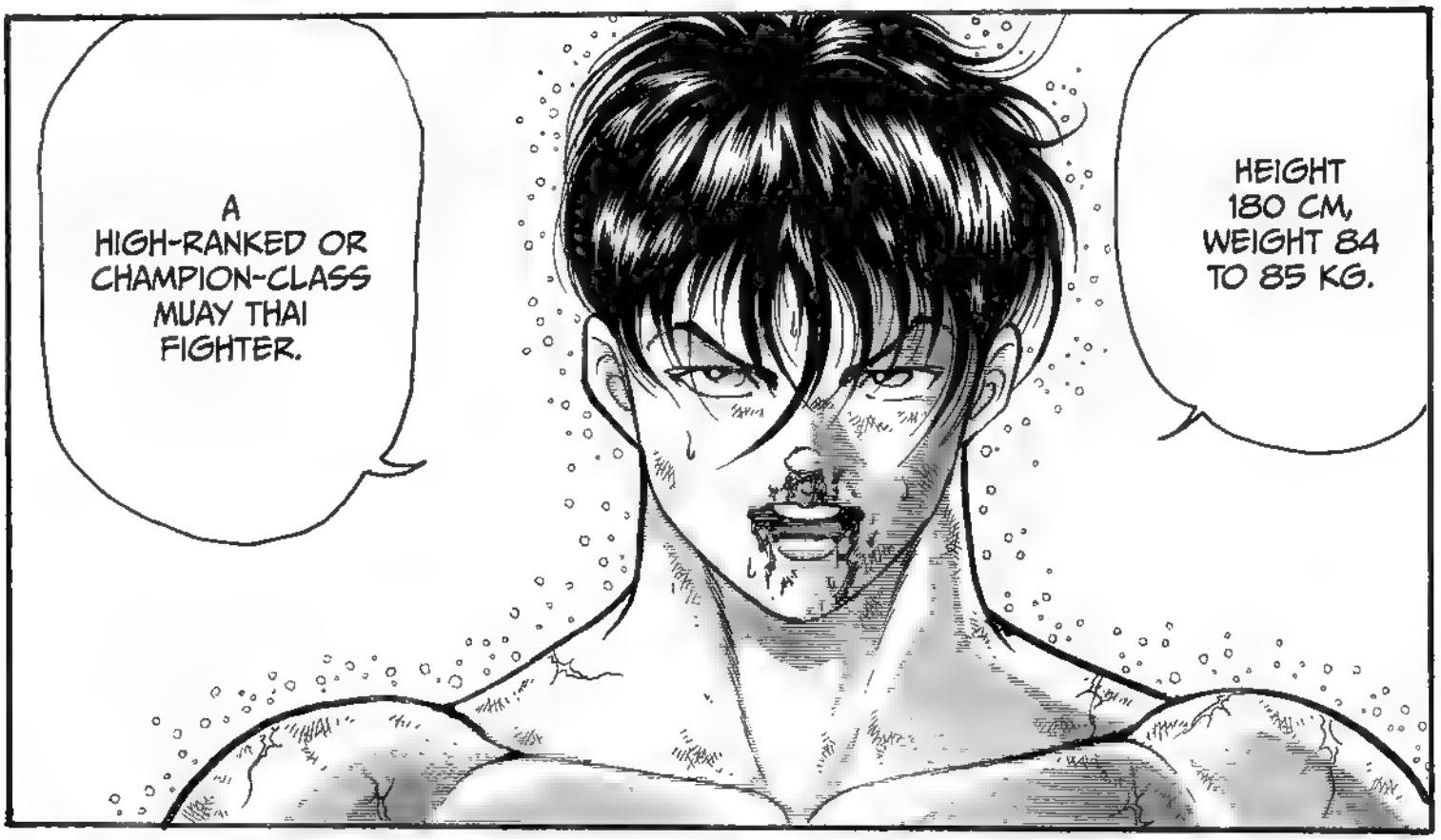
DID THAT LAST DITCH JUMPING SPINNING BACK KICK...

KRAK

...KNOCK THE MYSTERY OPPONENT DOWN WITH A CLOUD OF DUST?!

I'M SURE
I COULD
SEE IT!!!

PAAN


A HIGH-RANKED OR CHAMPION-CLASS MUAY THAI FIGHTER.
HEIGHT 180 CM, WEIGHT 84 TO 85 KG.

A SOLO FIGHT...

IF I FACED SOMEONE LIKE THAT, IT'D LIKELY TURN OUT THIS WAY.

...SHADOW-BOXING.

...AS REPRESENTED BY...

SOLO TRAINING IN MARTIAL ARTS...

...NEARLY ALL MARTIAL ARTS...

...INCORPORATED INTO...

IT'S A TRAINING METHOD...

...BUT I'VE NEVER WITNESSED IT DONE AT SUCH A HIGH LEVEL.

TO THINK YOU'D TAKE ACTUAL DAMAGE AT THE SAME TIME...

WHAT I SAW OF YOUR FIGHTING FROM THE FIRST TO THIRD ROUNDS...

...I ETCHED IT INTO MY EYES.

FROM YOUR MOVES, I'VE ANALYZED WHAT YOU CAN AND CAN'T DO.

I HAD A REAL SHADOW FIGHT...

...AND I WON.

...IS WHAT BAKI HAS BEEN DOING ALMOST EVERY DAY?

THAT SORT OF TRAINING...

IF THAT'S THE CASE, THAT MEANS BAKI'S EXPERIENCE SPANS *HUNDREDS* OF MATCHES...

NO... IT SPANS *THOUSANDS* OF MATCHES !!!

AGE: 17.

COME ON.

BAKI HANMA.

LET'S END THIS..

THE BOY WORTHY OF THE TITLE "STRONGEST."

SHF

#326 No Handicap!!!

THE CLIMAX APPROACHES!!!

LET'S END THIS.

COME ON.

THE STRONGEST BOY ON EARTH...

...IS READY FOR THE WORST!!!

THAT BAKI...

HE RESET THE MATCH BACK TO SQUARE ONE HIMSELF.

WHO WILL MAKE THE FIRST MOVE?!

HE'S FIGHTING THAT MONSTER...
NO MORE REHEARSALS NOW.
SIZU-U-U...
RETSU MOVES FORWARD!!!
...HANDI-CAP!!!
...WITH NO...
白虎
白虎

SHWOO
!!!
...

WHOA! HE GOES LOW!

BAM

!!!

!!!

RETSU!

WHF

BA—!

!!!

MY WORDS CAN HARDLY KEEP UP!

!!!

TUG

THERE IT IS! RETSU'S FOOT-GRABBING ATTACK !!!

青

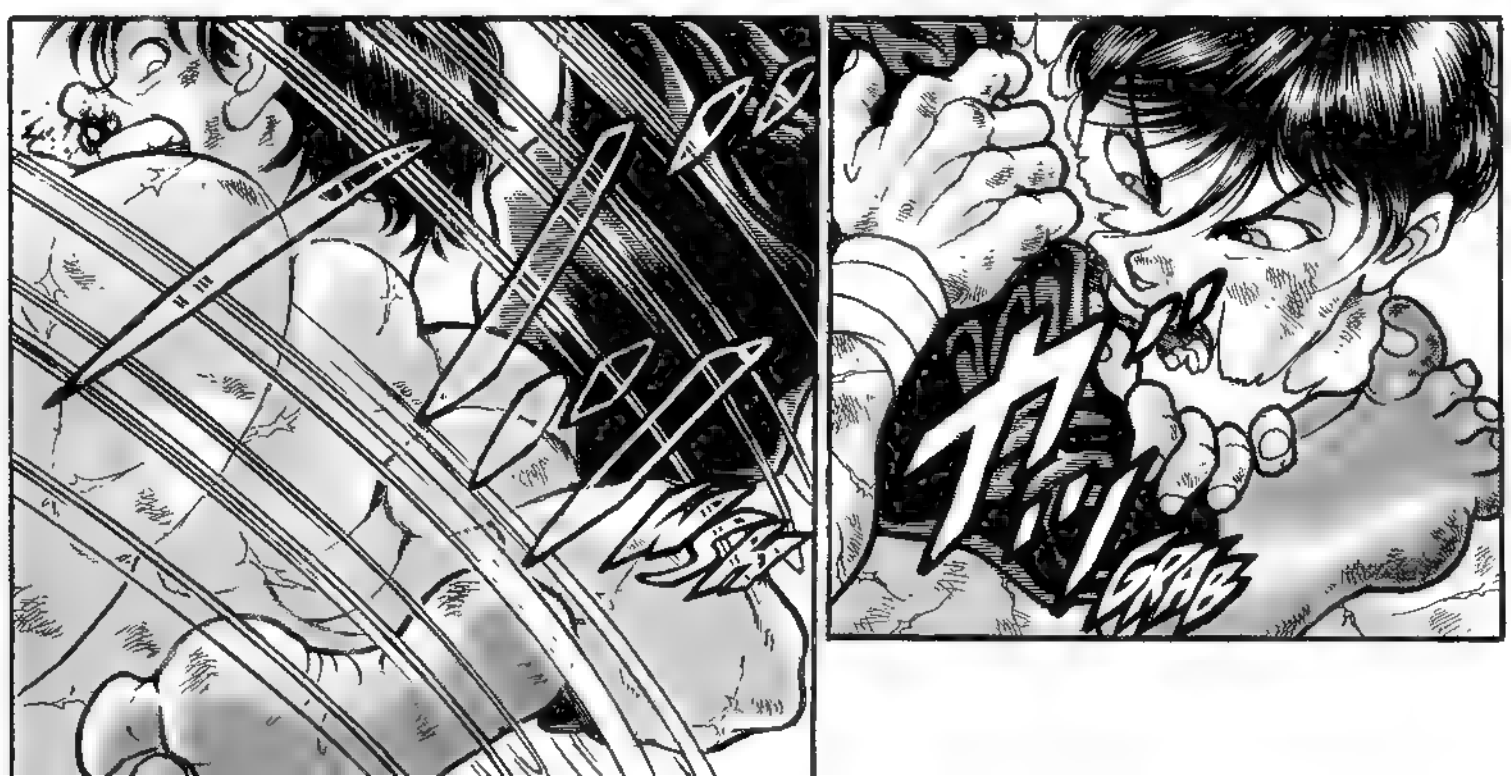
RETSU...

WSH

SWF

BA—!

SHWSH



HE CATCHES THE LEG AND THROWS HIM!!!

BAKI JUMPS AT HI–

HE ESCAP–

!!!

THE ACTION'S TOO FAST FOR ME TO CALL!

SHF

FROM BAKI'S FOREHEAD—

ROUND-HOUSE KICK—

WHISH

!!!

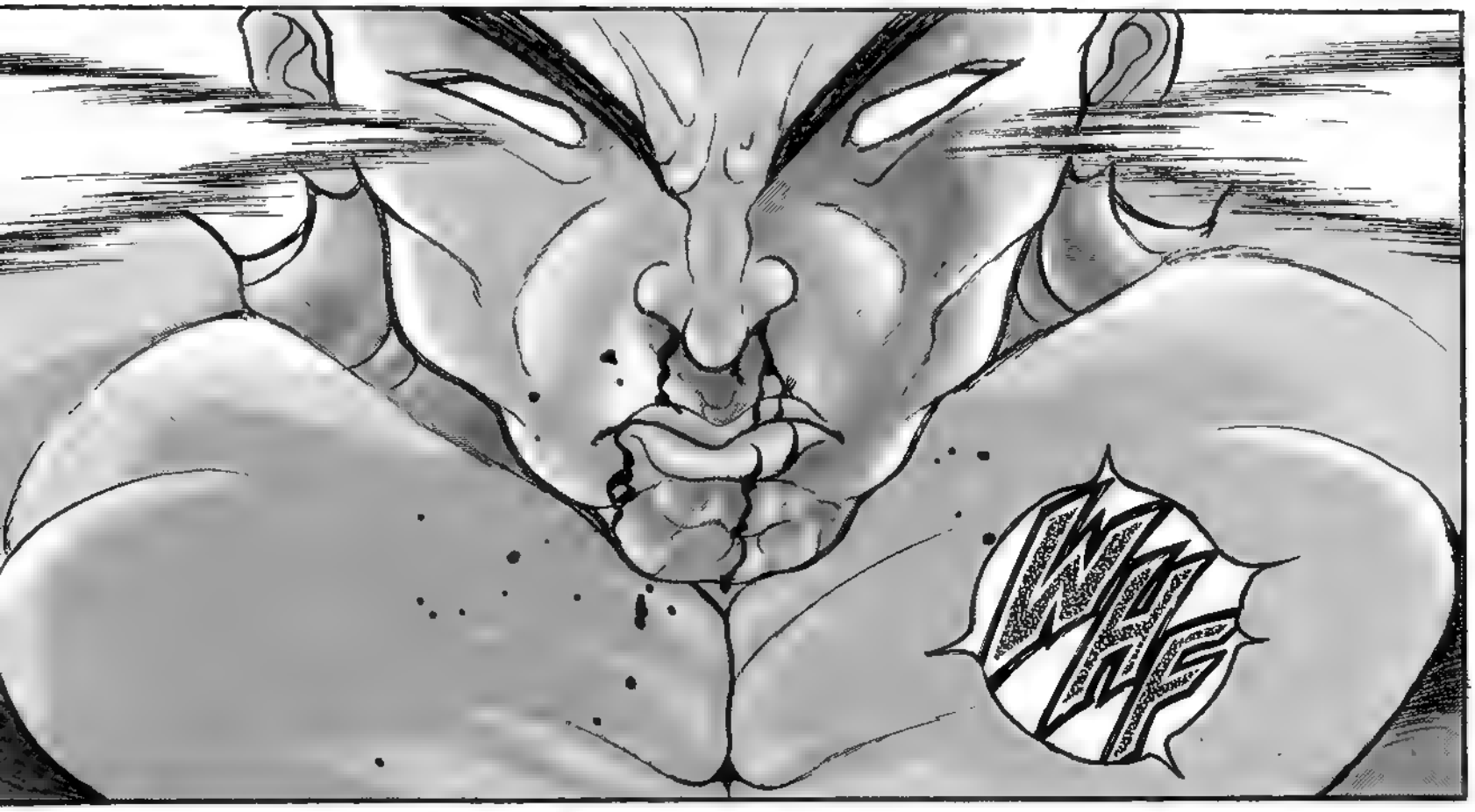
PSH

THE INVISIBLE EYE-BLINDER WE FORGOT ABOUT!!!

A NUT—

TOOM

ALL CLEAN HIIIITS!!!

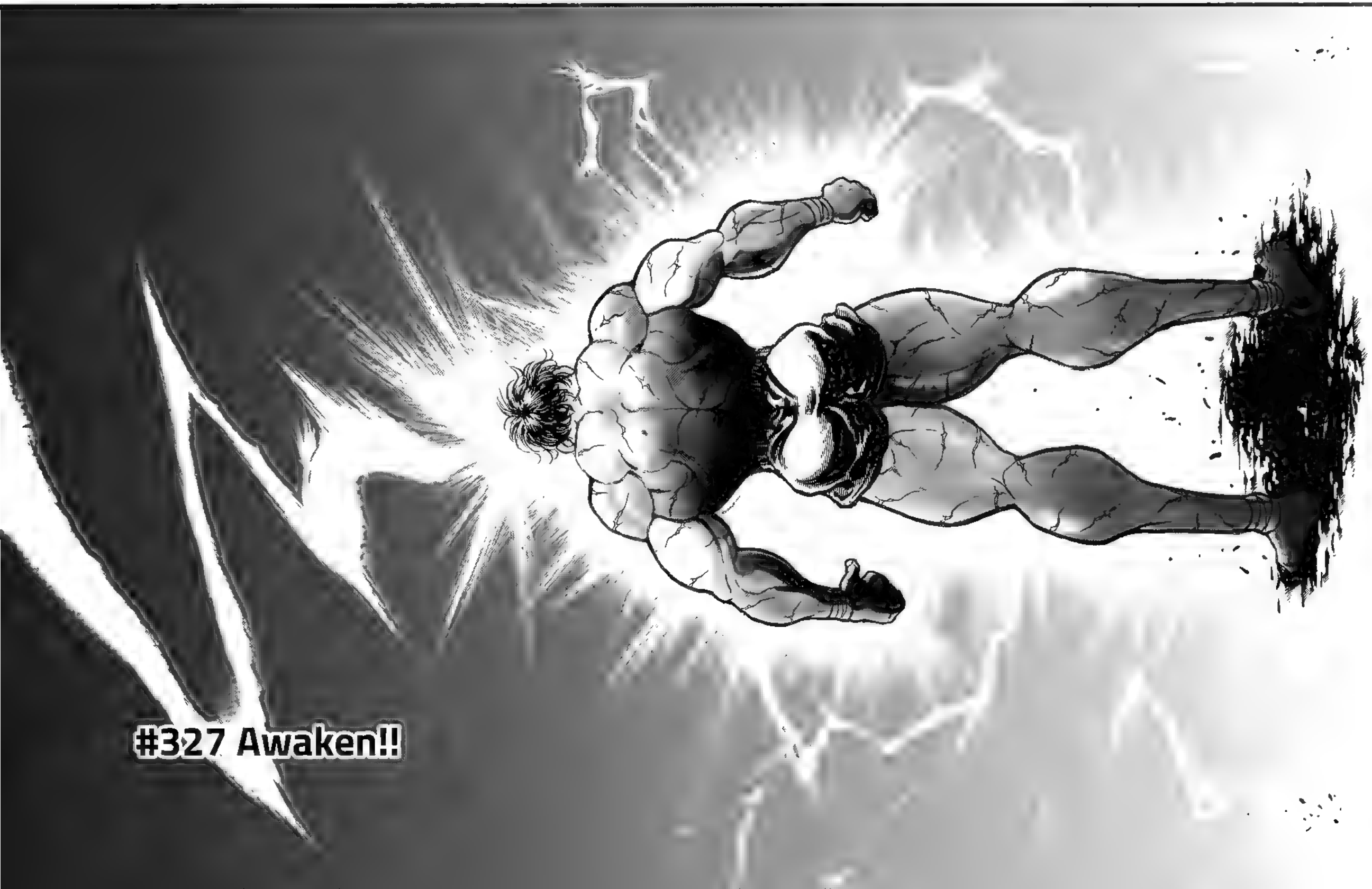


SLAM

GOOD BOY...

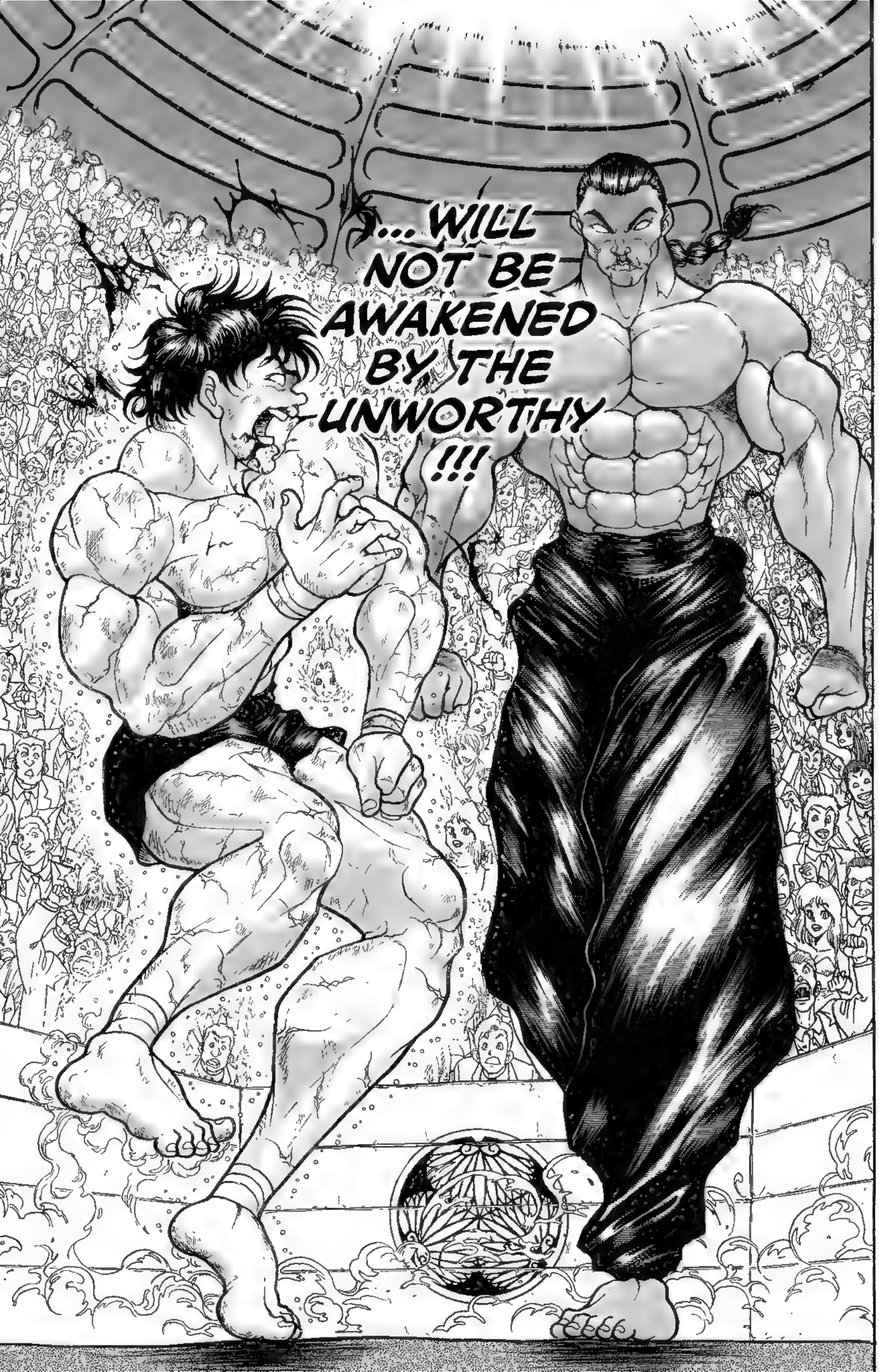
BAKI
THE GRAPPLER
21
BAKI
THE GRAPPLER

BAKI 21
THE GRAPPLER
THE GRA


#327 Awaken!!

GOOD BOY...
... WAKE UP!
NOW...

THE BLOOD THAT FLOWS WITHIN THE GREAT EVIL, HANMA...


...WILL NOT BE AWAKENED BY THE UNWORTHY !!!

BOXING!

A HUNDRED MEN!

YAKUZA!

UFO -1

TROOPS!

GIANTS!

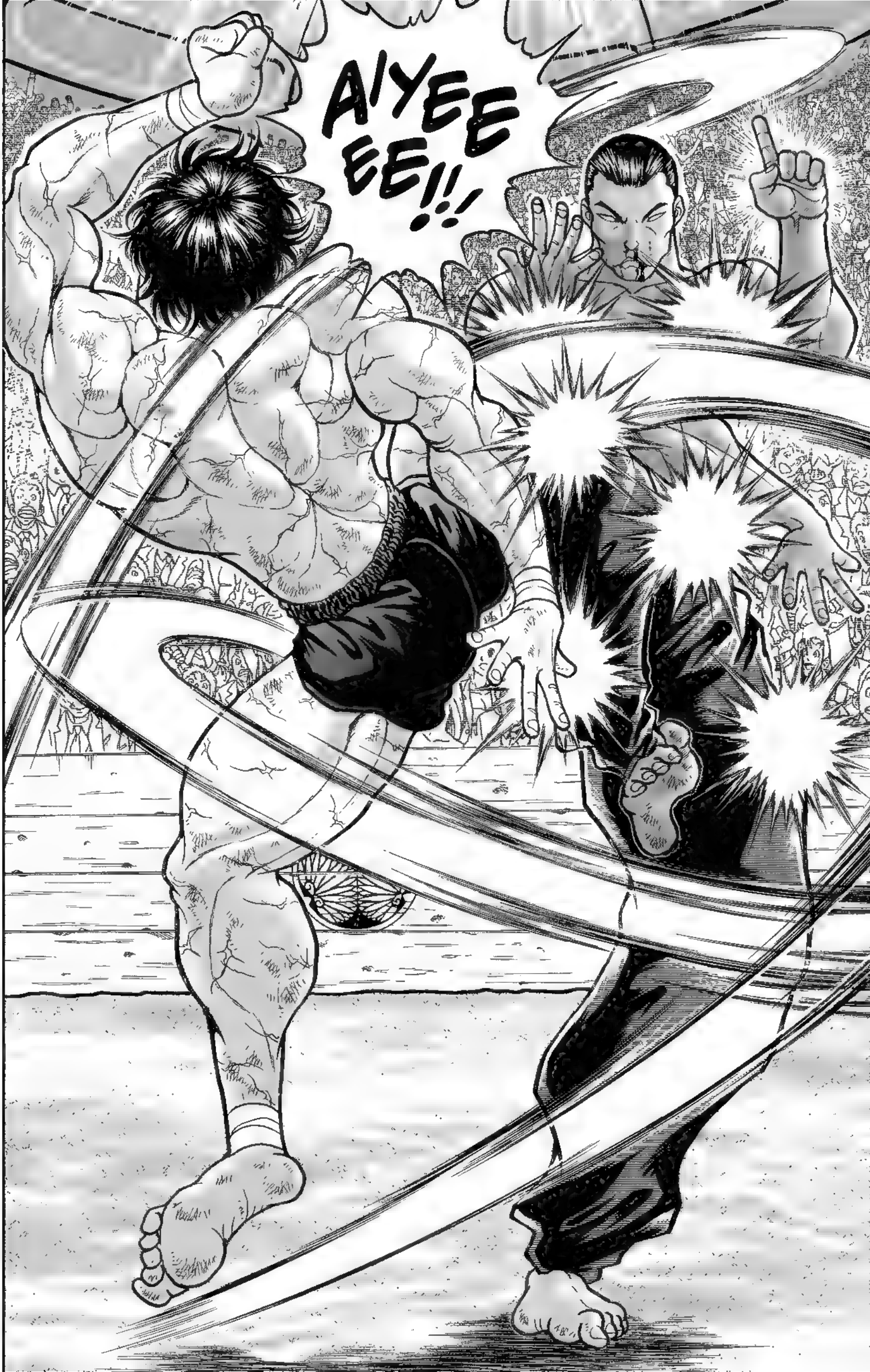
APES!

BARBARIANS!

DOCTORS!

NONE OF THEM!!!

NONE OF THEM WERE ABLE TO AWAKEN THE HANMA IN HIM.


AIYEE EE!!!

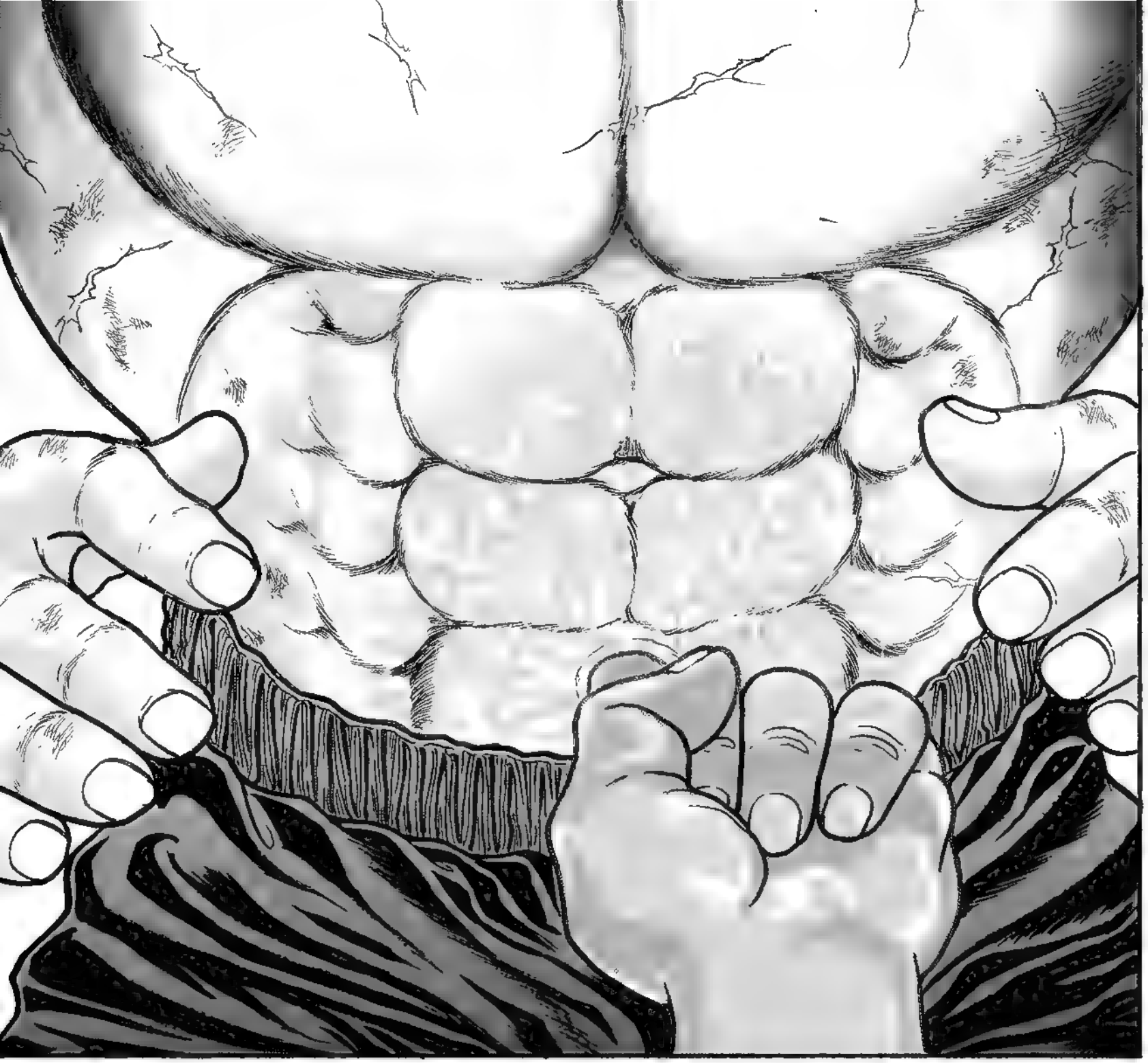
4,000 YEARS OF CHINESE HISTORY !!!

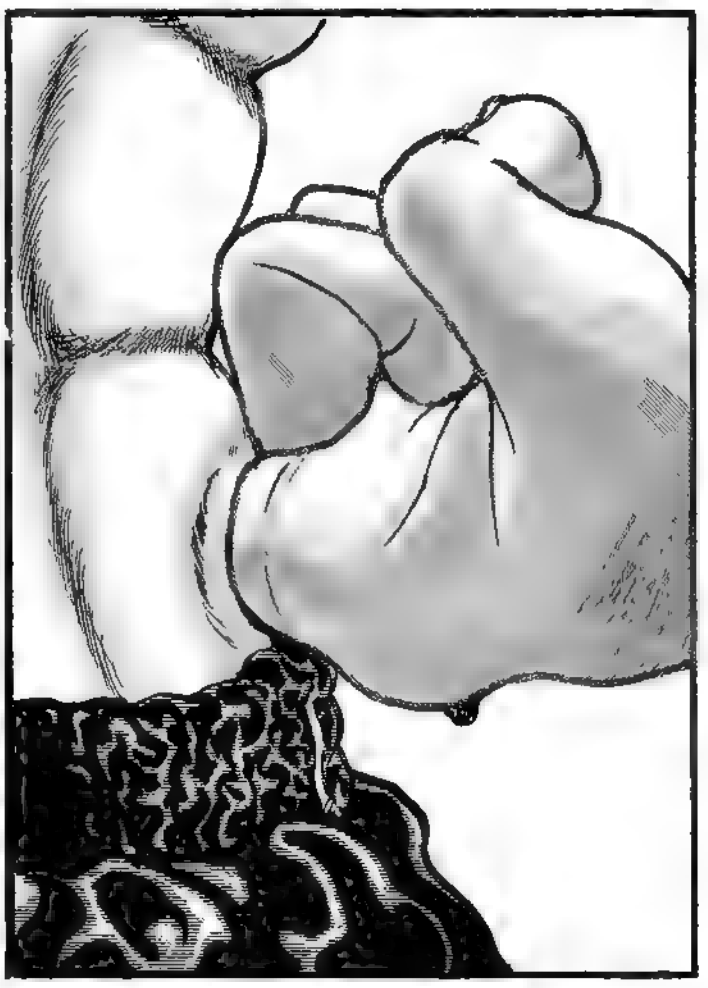
I KNOW THAT YOU...

KA-KRK
HMPH !!!
I KNOW THAT YOU CAN DO IT !!!

TAKE THE BLOOD OF THE GREAT EVIL, HANMA...

...AND AWAKEN IT WITH YOUR 4,000 YEARS OF WISDOM!!!!





KRAK
KON

...!!!

YOU GOT TOO COCKY.

#328 The Echoes of Ruin

THERE IS A SITUATION!

MASTER RYU!

MASTER RYU!!!

THE OBSIDIAN DAGAN...
HOW COULD THIS BE?!
I CANNOT BELIEVE IT.

HE'S GRABBED RETSU'S BRAID!

GRAB

AND HIS JAW!

KICK

!!!

BREK

KRIK

GRAK

...!!!

HE...

HE AC-
TUALLY
DID IT.

EEEK!

EEP!

...!
TMP

...!!!

THE MATCH IS OVER!!!

IT'S ALL OV—

SLUMP

青

青

ZAMP

肯立

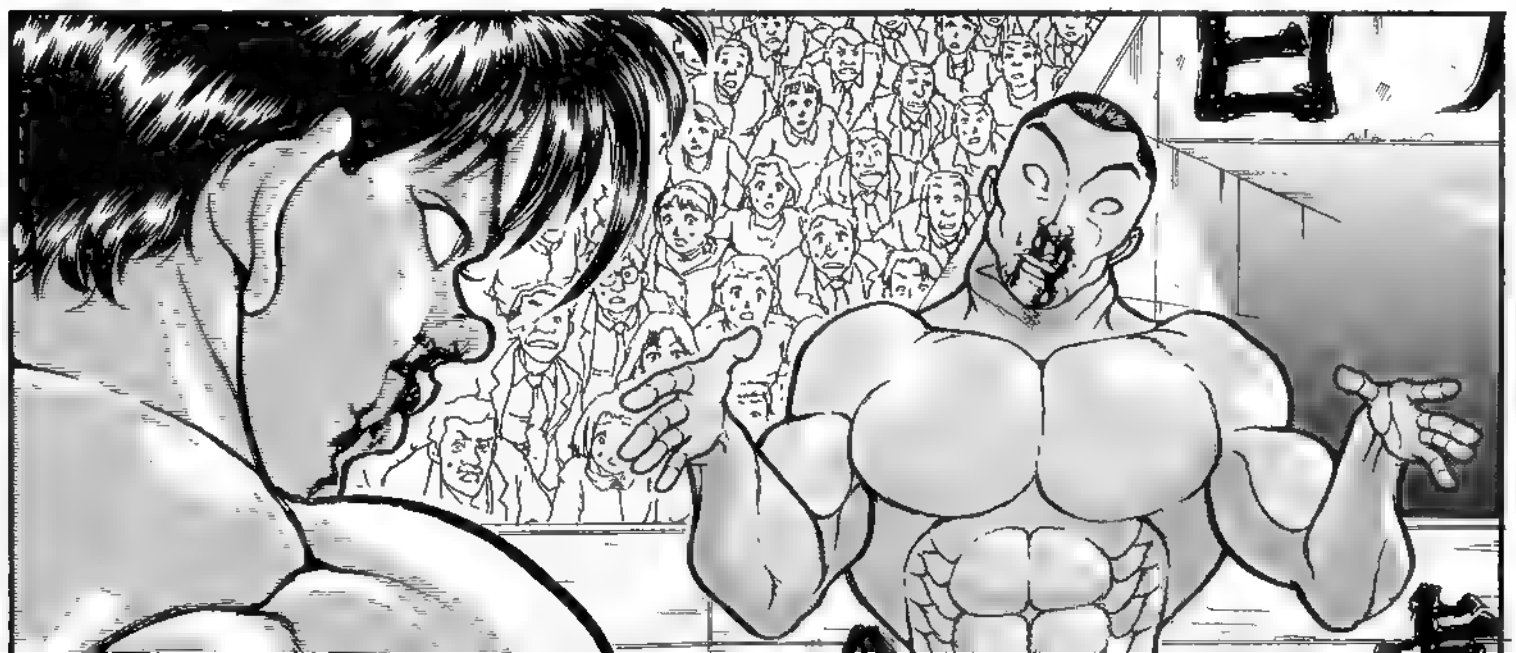
KRIK

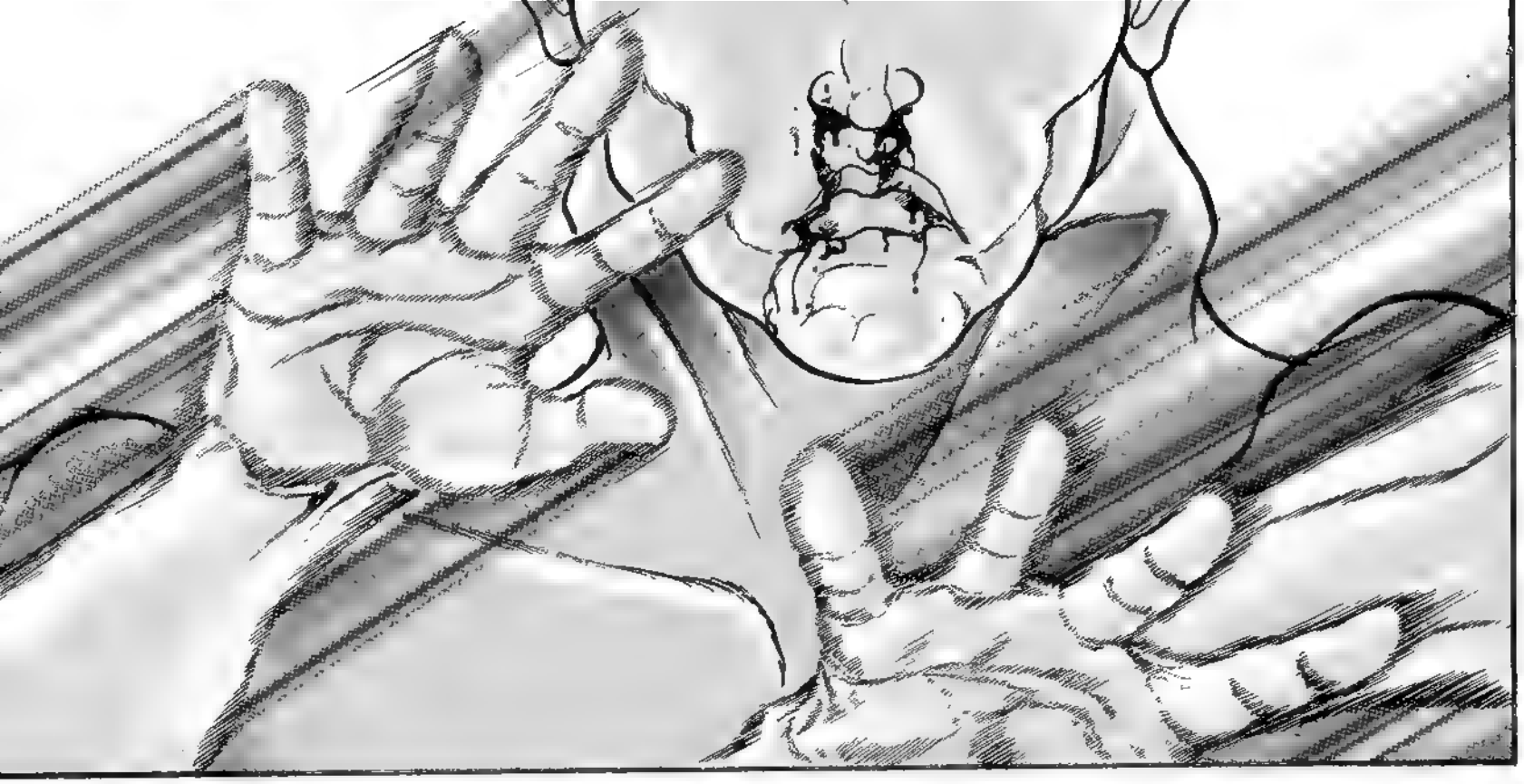
KRIK

BRAK

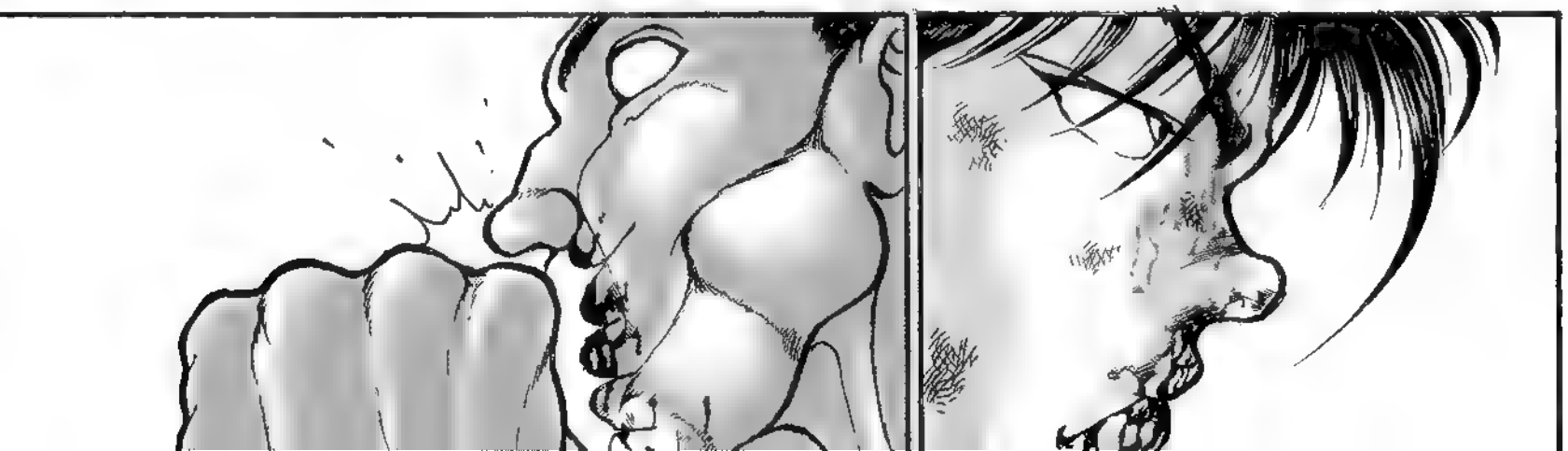
BRAK

WHA
...





WHIP
WHIP
WHIP
WHIP
WHIP



PHOOM!

WHOA!

BWF

LOOSH

SHWAK

IT'S ALL
OVERRRRR
SHNK

#329 4,000 Years of Chinese History Falls!!

...AND THOSE 4,000 YEARS, SHINING WITH MIRACLES...
THAT SELF-DISCIPLINE...
...THE ENDUR-ANCE...
4,000 YEARS OF CHINESE HISTORY HAS BEEN DEFEATED!!!
雀

...ALL FELL TO THE TERRIFYING POTENTIAL OF A MERE SEVENTEEN-YEAR-OLD !!!

THIS TEENAGE BOY CAN'T BE REAL!!!

BAKI HANMA IS UNREAL !!!

HE...

...HAS LEFT THE AUDIENCE SPEECHLESS!!!

THIS ALL TOO SHOCKING ENDING...

HE'S ARROGANTLY LOOKING DOWN ON HIS DEFEATED FOE, WHO SITS ON HIS KNEES, TOTALLY UNCONSCIOUS !!!

HE'S LOOKING DOWN ON HIM!

SOMETHING IS DIFFERENT!!!

...THE BAKI THAT WE KNOW !!!

SOME-THING HAS CHANGED FROM...

OOOH!
HE'S DECLARED HIMSELF THE VICTOR...!!!

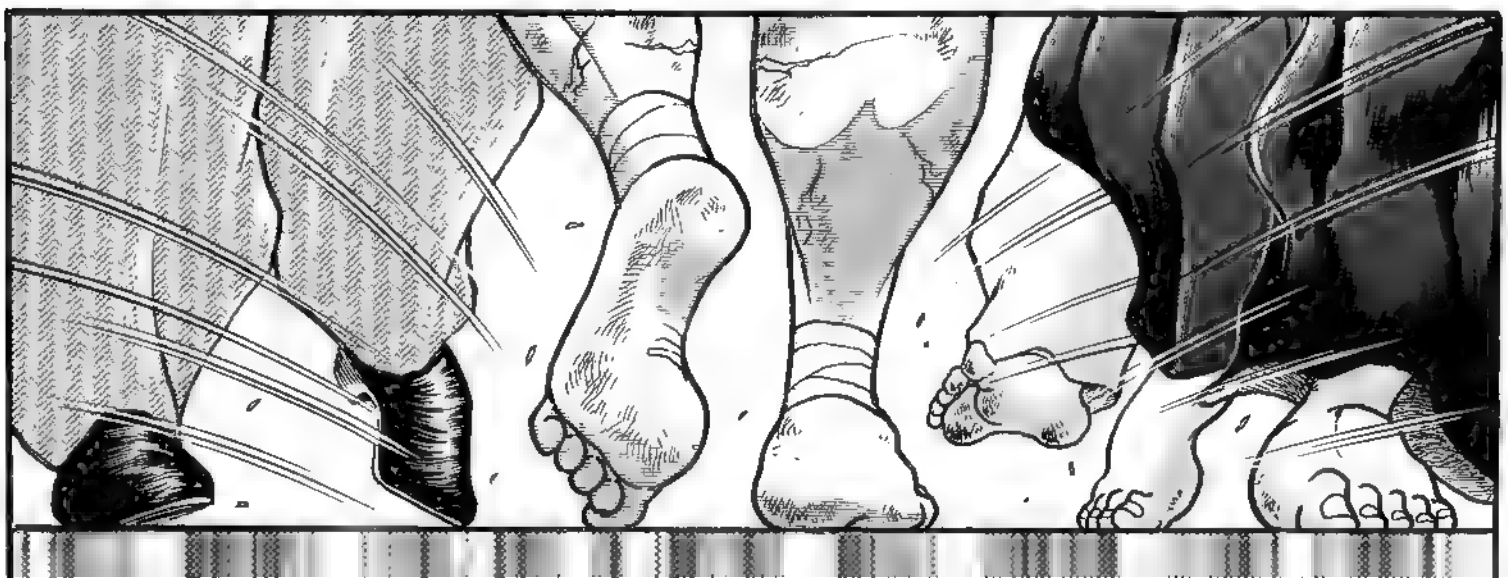
IN RESPONSE TO THE VICTOR...

YAMMR

...THE CROWD CAN'T HIDE THEIR BEWILDER-MENT!

...IS MET WITH NO APPLAUSE !!!

BAKI'S EXIT FROM THE RING ...



I THOUGHT HE WAS GOING TO GNAW US TO DEATH.

HE DISCONNECTED HIS SKULL FROM HIS CERVICAL VERTEBRAE THE MOMENT HIS NECK WAS BEING TWISTED...

CHINESE KENPO SURE IS SOMETHING ELSE.

THE DAMAGE TO THE NECK WAS FROM A STRIKE.

SO IT'S *NOT* BROKEN ?

...AND AVOIDED ANY FRACTURES.

OOH!

玄武

I'D VENTURE IT WAS THE LAST ROUNDHOUSE KICK THAT PUT HIM DOWN.

IN ANY CASE...
...THAT WAS AN INCREDIBLE FIGHT.
パチ
CLAP
白虎

*RESSHI: GREAT MAN

HOW KIND OF YOU.

ONE MORE TWIST AND YOU WOULD'VE DESTROYED HIS VERTEBRAE.

YOU REALLY ARE...

...BRAT.
...A HOPE-LESS...

THE FIRST MATCH OF THE SEMIFINALS!!!

JACK
HAMMER
VS...

OHO...

#330 True Self-Defense!!

1955, SHOWA 30, GOSHIN-RYU AIKI-JUJUTSU MAIN DOJO

WHAT IS TRUE MARTIAL ARTS?!

I ASK YOU TO TEACH ME, ELDER MIKOSHIBA !!!

WHAT IS TRUE SELF-DEFENSE ?!

GOKI SHIBUKAWA, AGE 36

TELL ME THE PATH I SHOULD FOLLOW!

*CALLIGRAPHY: "BU" - MARTIAL ARTS

GOSHIN-RYU AIKI JUJUTSU FOUNDER KIHEI MIKOSHIBA

YOUNG SHIBUKAWA.

IF PERFECTING SELF-DEFENSE IS THE SUMMIT OF MT. FUJI...
...YOU COULD REACH THE EIGHTH STATION IF YOU'RE LUCKY..
...AND A LIFE DEVOTED TO MARTIAL ARTS...
WITH YOUR LEVEL OF TALENT...
...THEN I'VE JUST REACHED THE FOOTHILLS MYSELF.

"I HAVE TO PARRY KICKS LIKE THIS."

"I HAVE TO DODGE PUNCHES LIKE THIS."

IF YOU HAVE LEARNED TRUE SELF-DEFENSE...

WHSH

IF YOU ARE A PRISONER TO THESE TRIVIAL TECHNIQUES, THEN YOU ARE AT THE VERY BOTTOM OF THE RUNG.

...TECHNIQUES ARE UNNECESSARY.

...YOUNG SHIBUKAWA...

IF YOU'VE PERFECTED TRUE SELF-DEFENSE...

EVEN IF YOU DO NOT REALIZE THE DANGER YOU ARE IN...

...YOU CAN NEVER ENCOUNTER DANGER.

...YOU WILL NEVER REACH IT.

NOW THEN...

SUKI...

...ELDER SHIBUKAWA.

PLEASE LET US ACCOMPANY YOU...

OUR PLEASURE.

OH.

MUCH OBLIGED.

WELL, WELL!

HO HO HO!

!

TMP

ARE YOU OKAY, ELDER?

WHOA, WHOA ...

...YOU'VE ACTUALLY GIVEN US QUITE THE TREAT.

IF I MAY BE SO BOLD, ELDER SHIBUKAWA...

SHOULDN'T BE TRIPPING LIKE THIS BEFORE A FIGHT.

HA HA HA. WELL, *THAT* WAS PATHETIC.

ぱん PAT

ぱん PAT

...IS NOT SOMETHING YOU SEE EVERY DAY.

AFTER ALL, SEEING *YOU* SLIP UP...

NOW, LET'S GO, SHALL WE?

KRAAAH

SO YOU CAN SEIZE VICTORY.

SLIP

"YOU CAN NEVER ENCOUNTER DANGER."

ELDER SHIBUKAWA...

SMF

...

...

!

"EVEN IF YOU DO NOT REALIZE THE DANGER YOU ARE IN..."

"...YOUNG SHIBUKAWA."
"...YOU WILL NEVER REACH IT..."
HOMES

MASTER SHIBUKAWA...

...

DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME AND GO AHEAD.

SORRY YOU HAD TO SEE THAT.

HA HA...

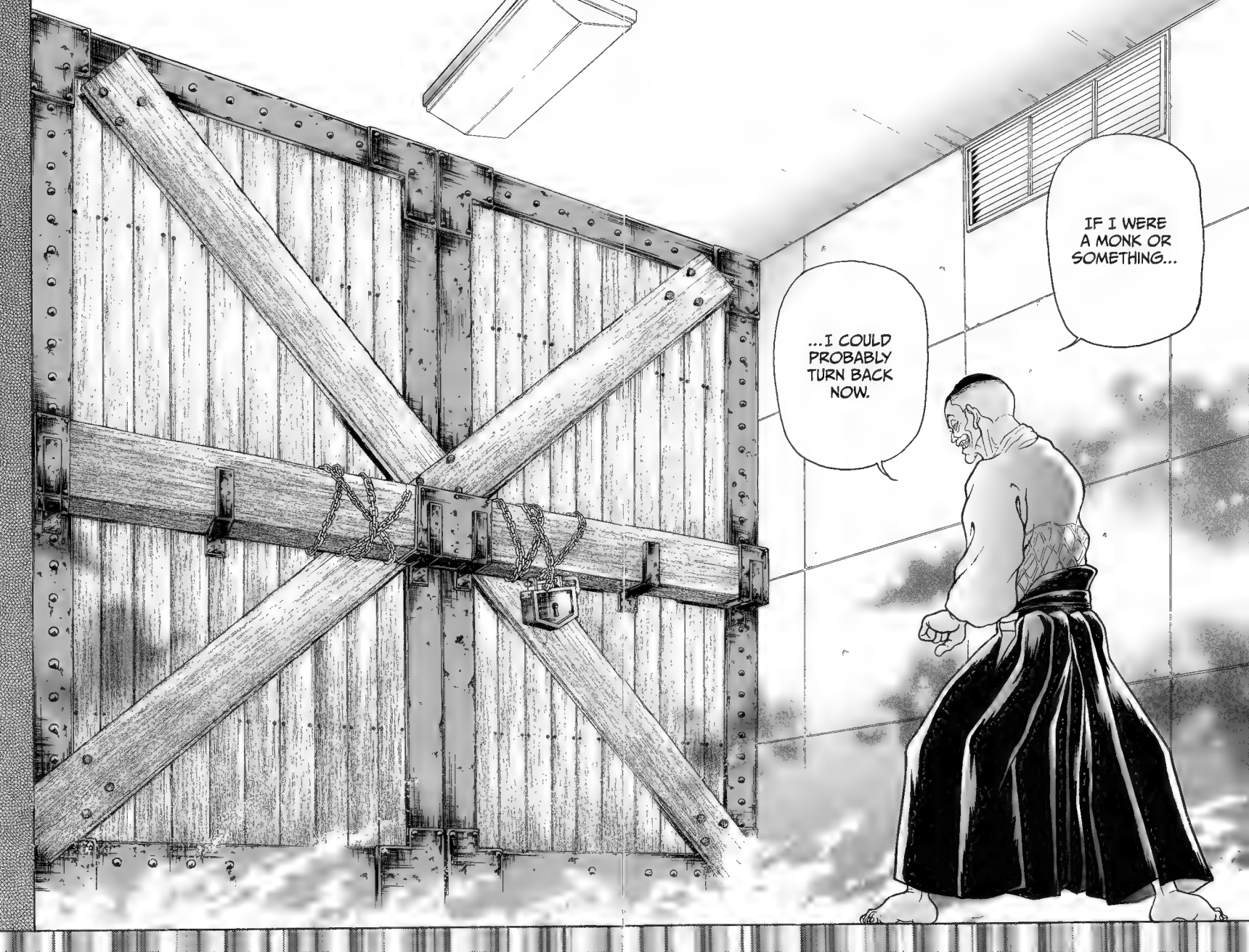
SO, OUT OF THE BLUE...

...I PERFECTED SELF-DEFENSE, EH?

AAAH...

JUST HAD TO HAVE SOMETHING LIKE *THIS* SHOW UP...

THIS IS THE ICING ON THE CAKE.


IF I WERE A MONK OR SOMETHING...
...I COULD PROBABLY TURN BACK NOW.

...OF BEING A MARTIAL ARTIST.

BUT THIS IS THE HARD PART...

FROM THE BLUE DRAGON CORNER!

GOKI SHIBUKAWA !!!

#331 Demonstration!!

SECOND MATCH
SEMI-FINALS
...THESE TWO MONSTERS STAND FACE TO FACE!!!
KICKING ASIDE THE MOUNTAIN OF BODIES LEFT IN THEIR PATH...
玄武
HEIGHT: 193 CM
WEIGHT: 116 KG
HEIGHT: 155 CM
WEIGHT: 47 KG

...GOKI SHIBUKAWA !!!

IN ONE CORNER, A MASTER WHO APPLIES THE PRINCIPLES OF CLASSICAL MARTIAL ARTS IN LIVE COMBAT TO THE EXTREME...

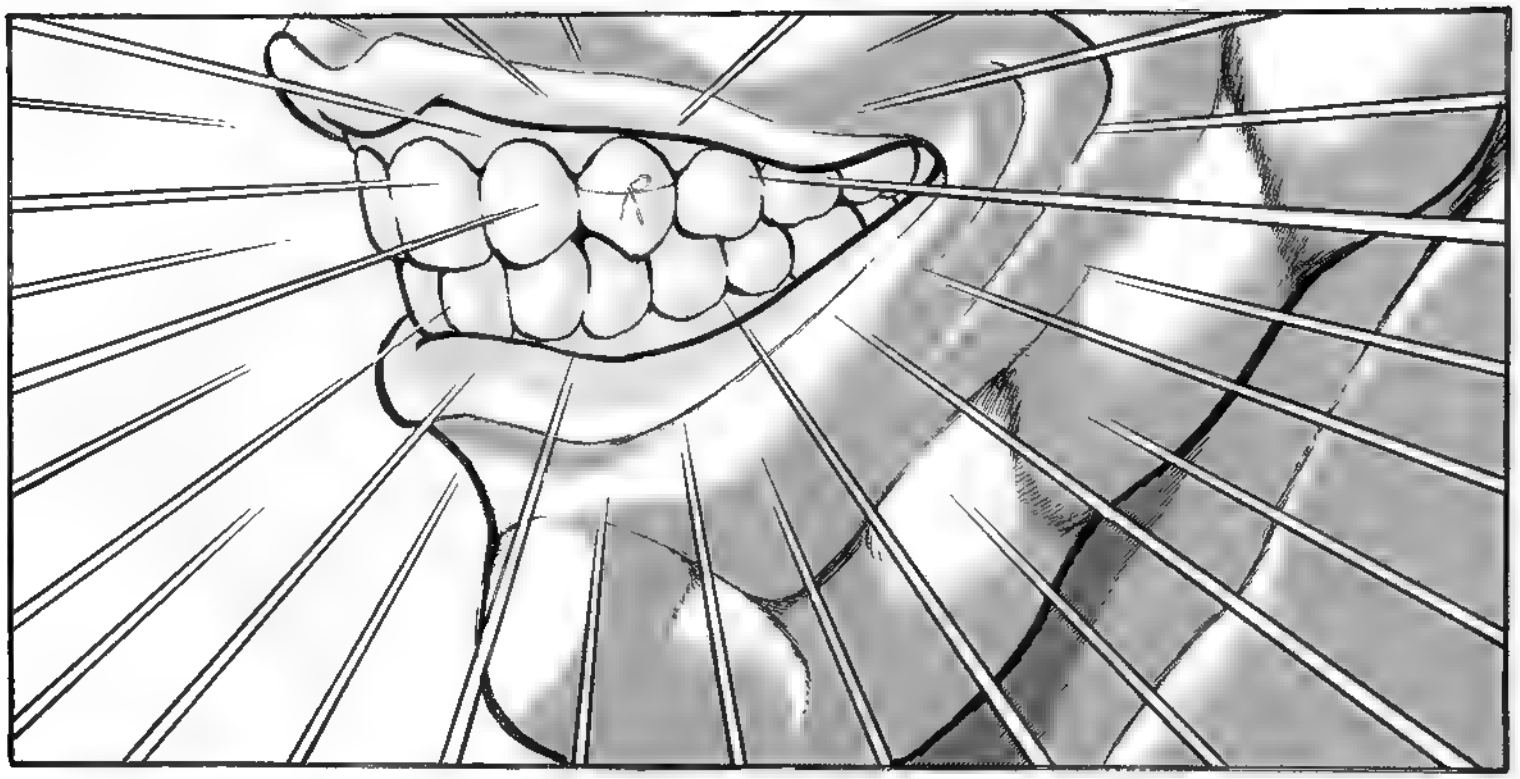
JACK HAMMER !!!

IN THE OTHER, THE MAN WITH NO TOMORROW, WHO PUSHES THE DANGER HUMANS FACE TO THE EXTREME...

THE CROWD HAS LIKELY SENSED SOMETHING FROM THEIR FIGHTS...

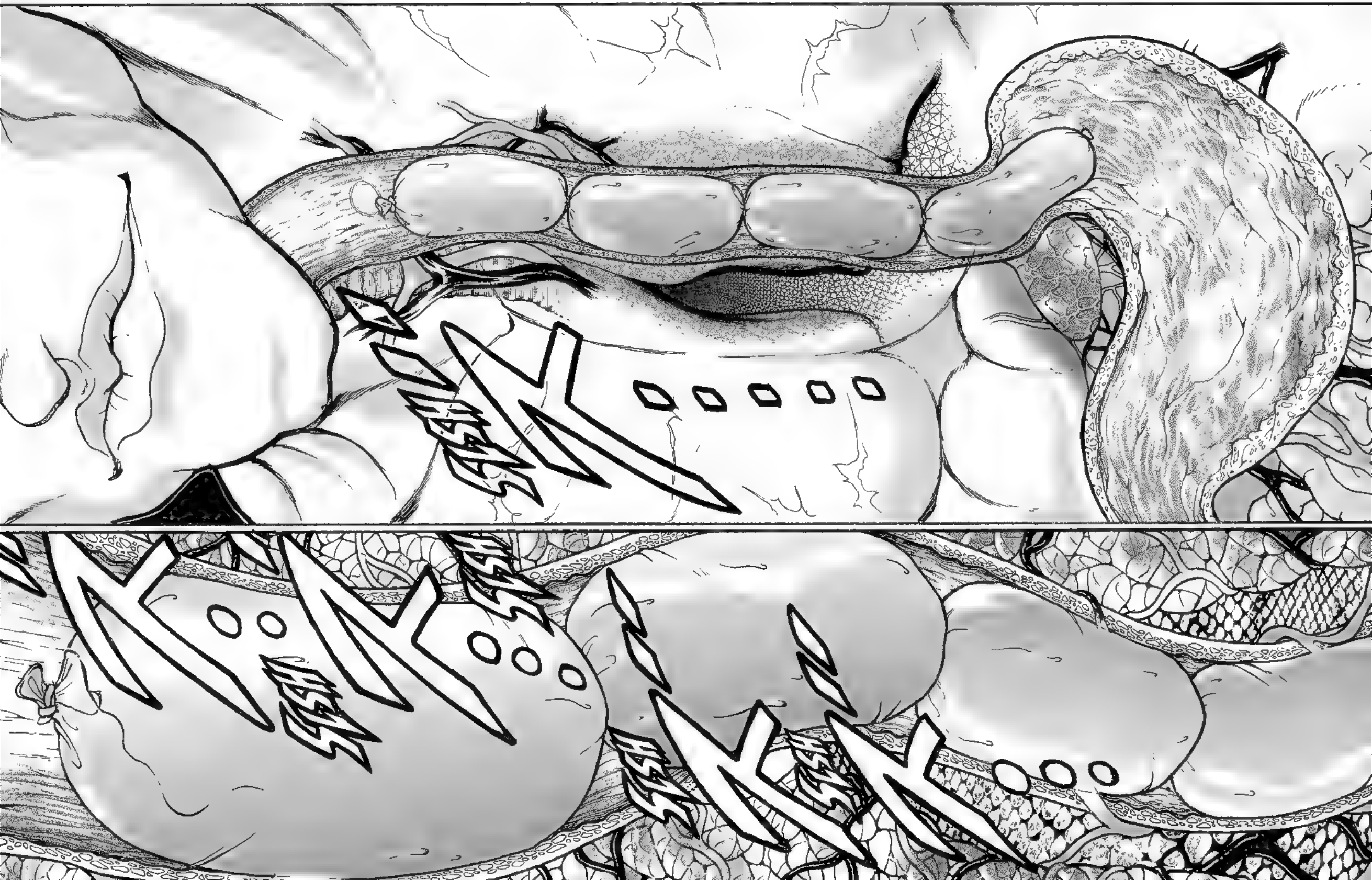
...BECAUSE AN EERIE TENSION HAS FALLEN OVER THEM!!!

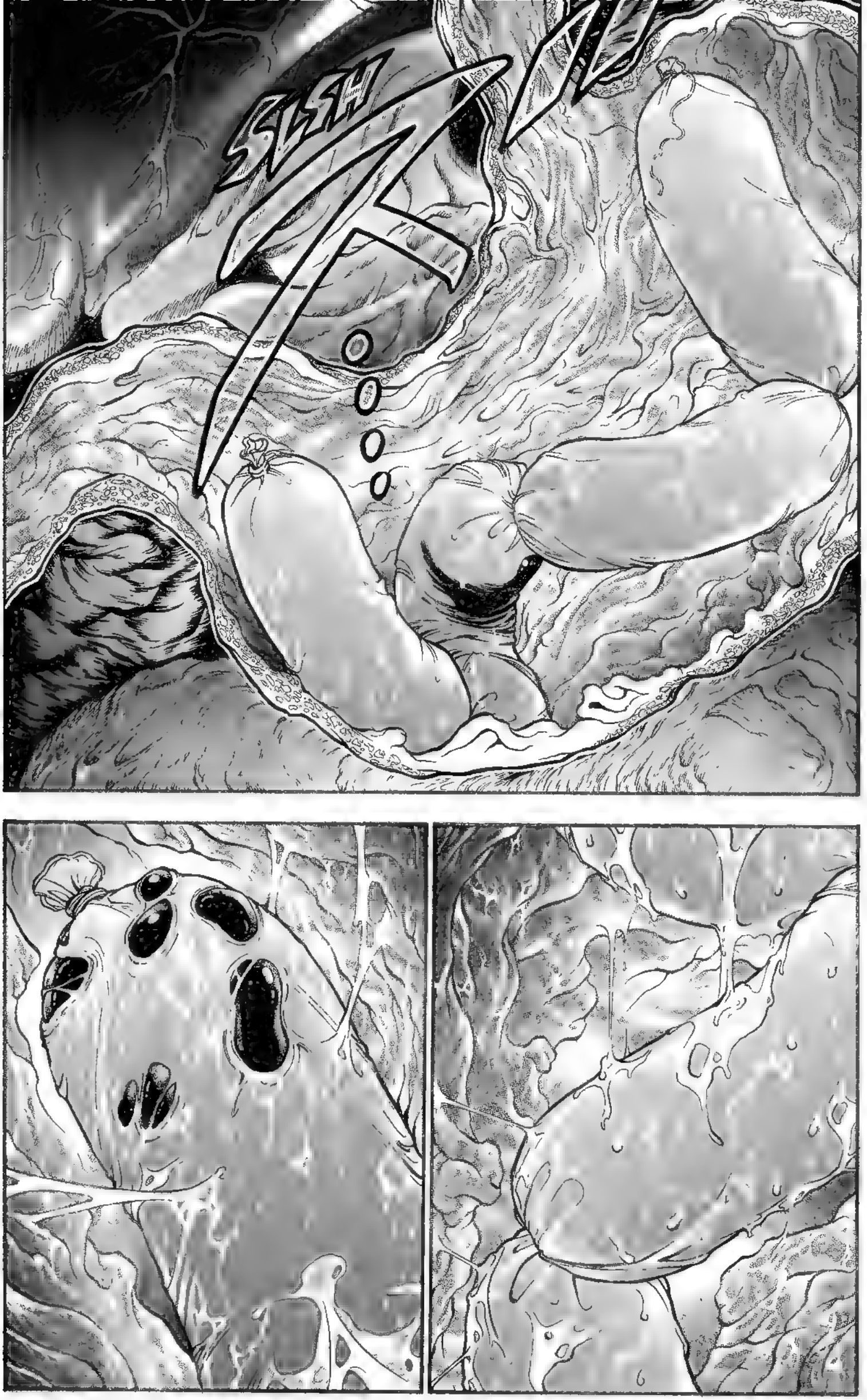
BOTH FIGHTERS, TO YOUR MARKS!!!

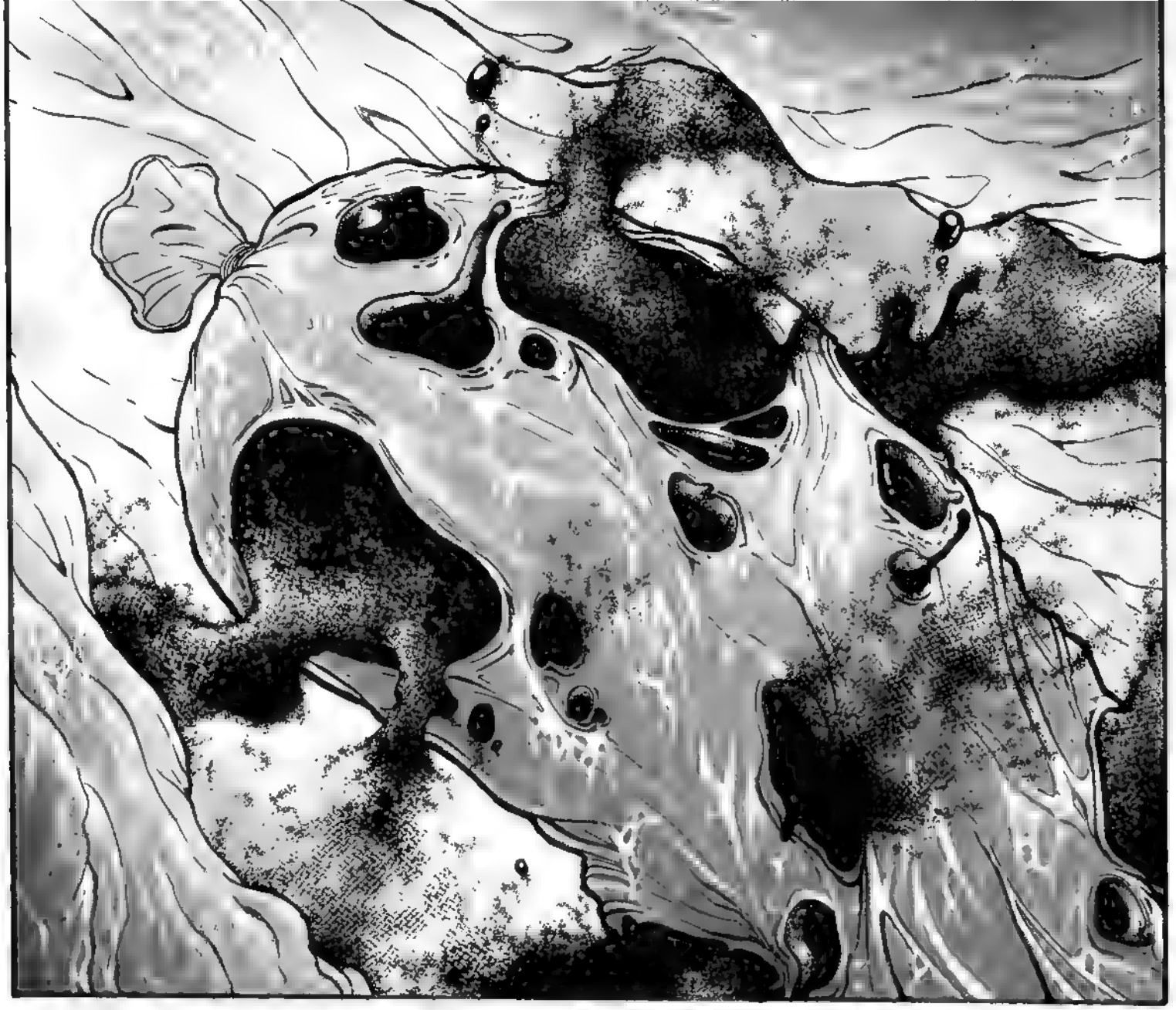


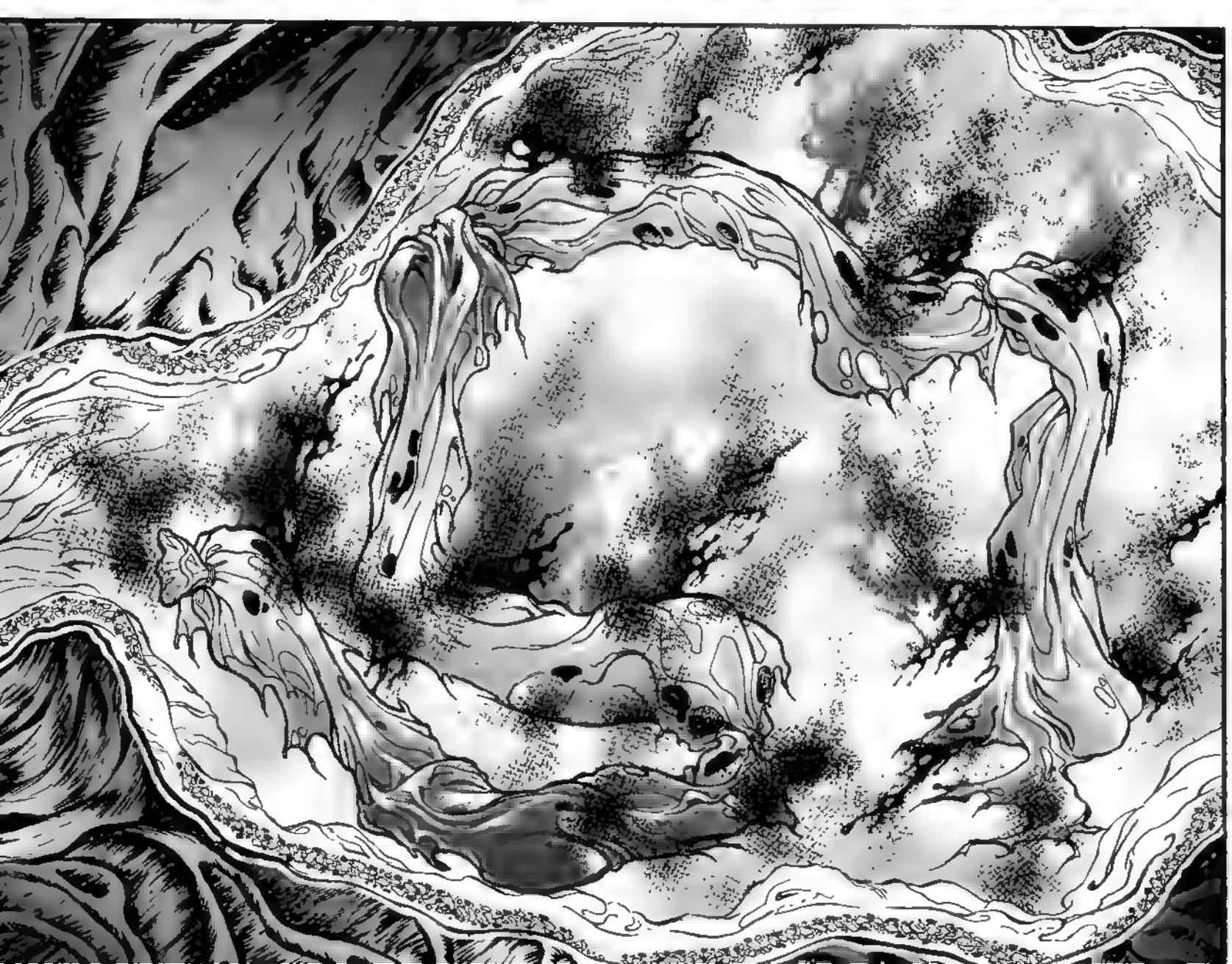
TNK
キュ……
"1 PINCH

GULP

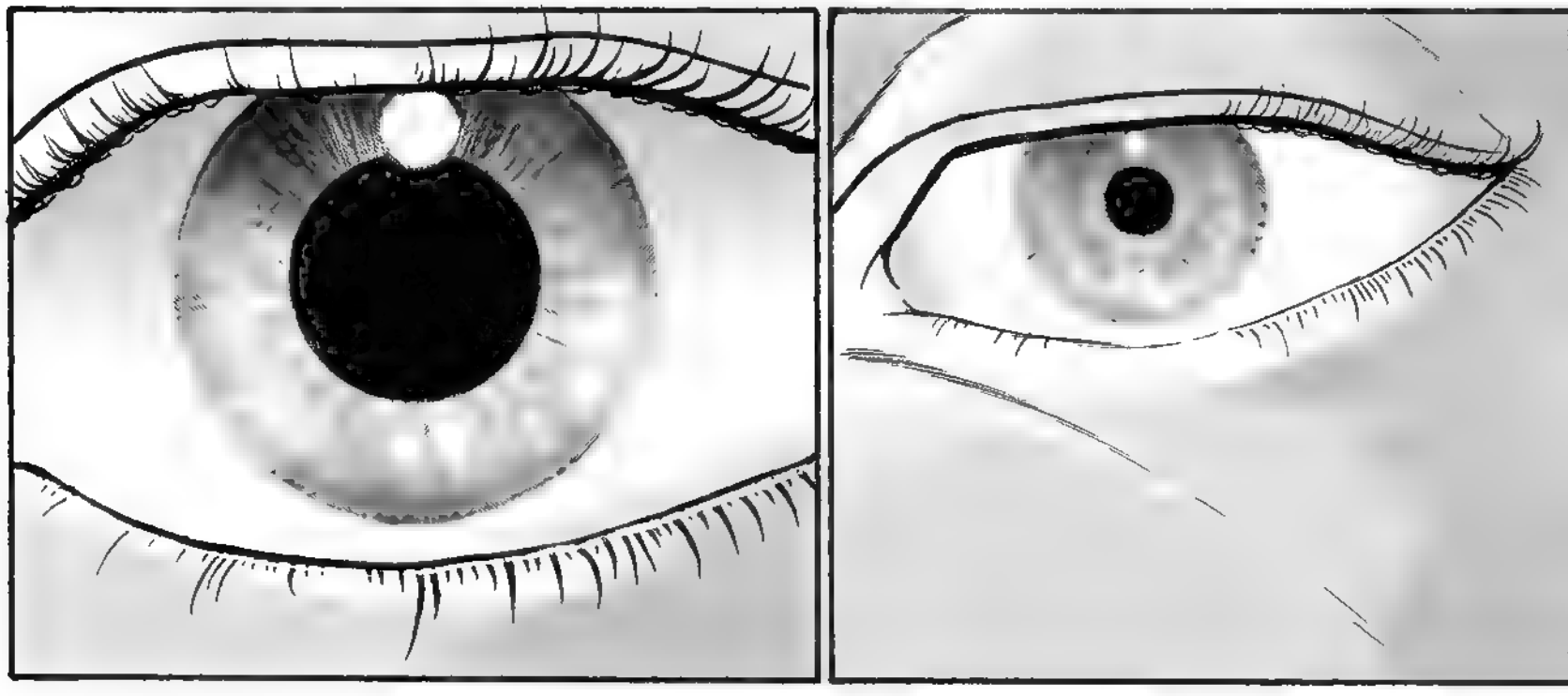



SLSH

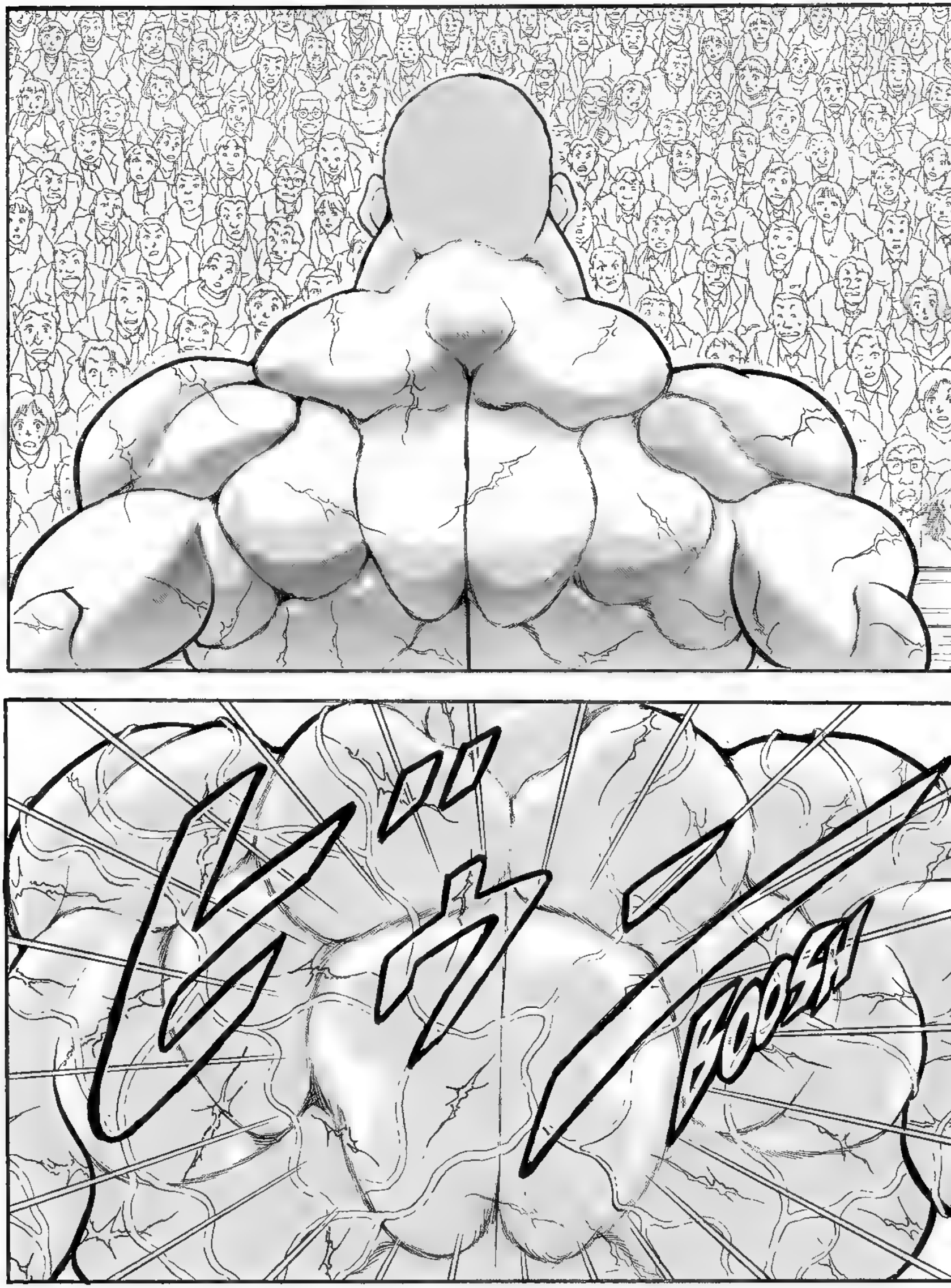




BA-BUMP



BA-BUMP


BOOM!

JACK IS SEARCHING AROUND HIS OWN CORNER FOR SOME-THING!!!

OOH!

I-IT'S...

...A COCONUT!

WHAT'S HE GOING TO DO WITH THAT...?!

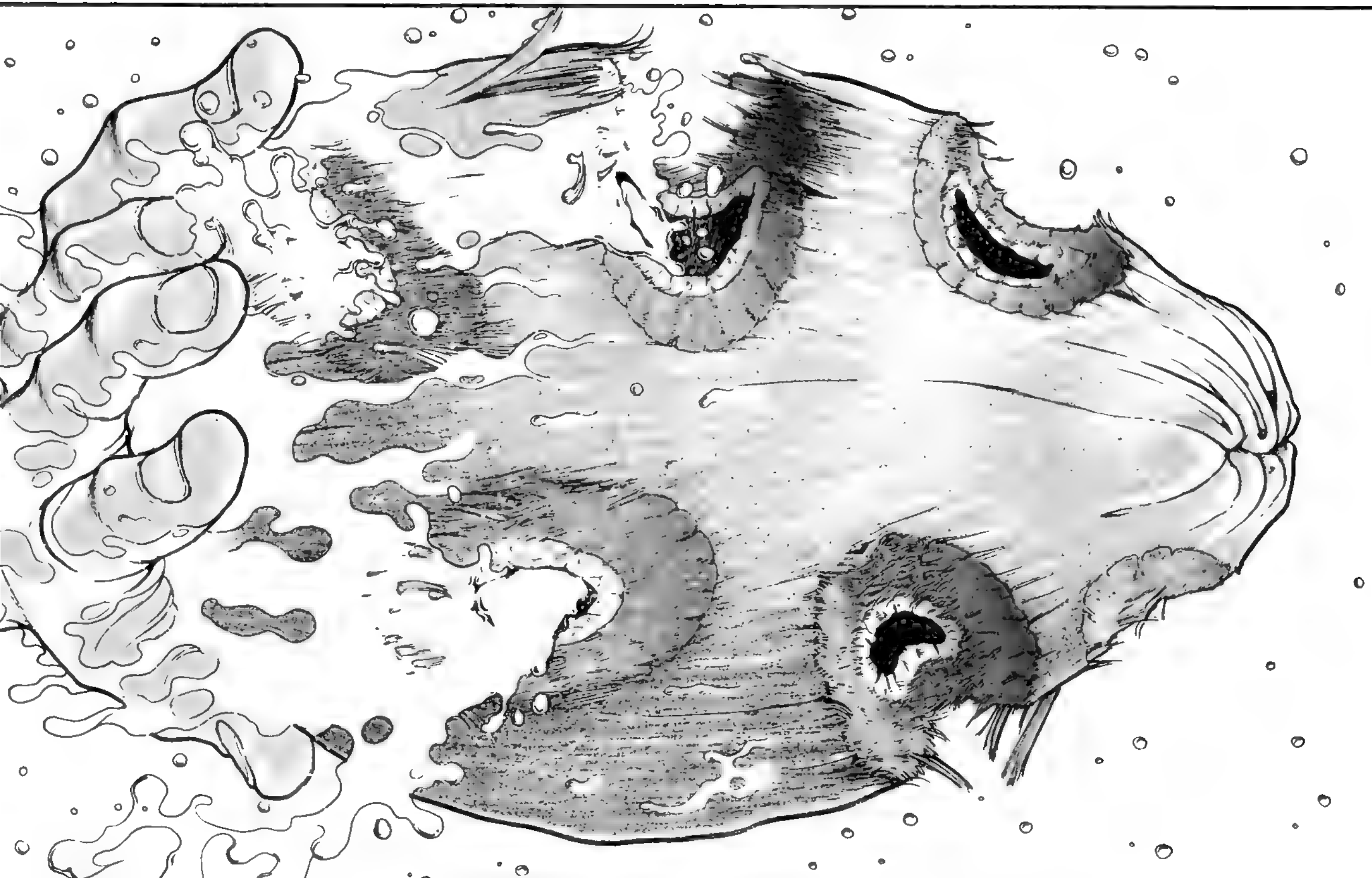
HE OPENS WIDE AND..

CHOMP

CHOMP

CHOMP

CHOMP



BFFFT
I-IT'S FULL OF HOLES!!!
THAT COCONUT WITH ALL ITS DENSELY PACKED FIBERS!
THE POWER OF HIS MASSETER MUSCLES IS TERRIFYING !!!
A SHOCKING DEMONSTRATION THAT SENDS A CLEAR MESSAGE: "I'LL FILL YOU FULL OF HOLES"!!!

IT'S NOW OR NEVER FOR THEM BOTH !!!
BEGIN!!!
青竜
青竜

ゴクッ GULP

WATER ...

O-OSU ...

WHO WILL ADVANCE TO THE FINALS?!

STAY SAFE, SIR!

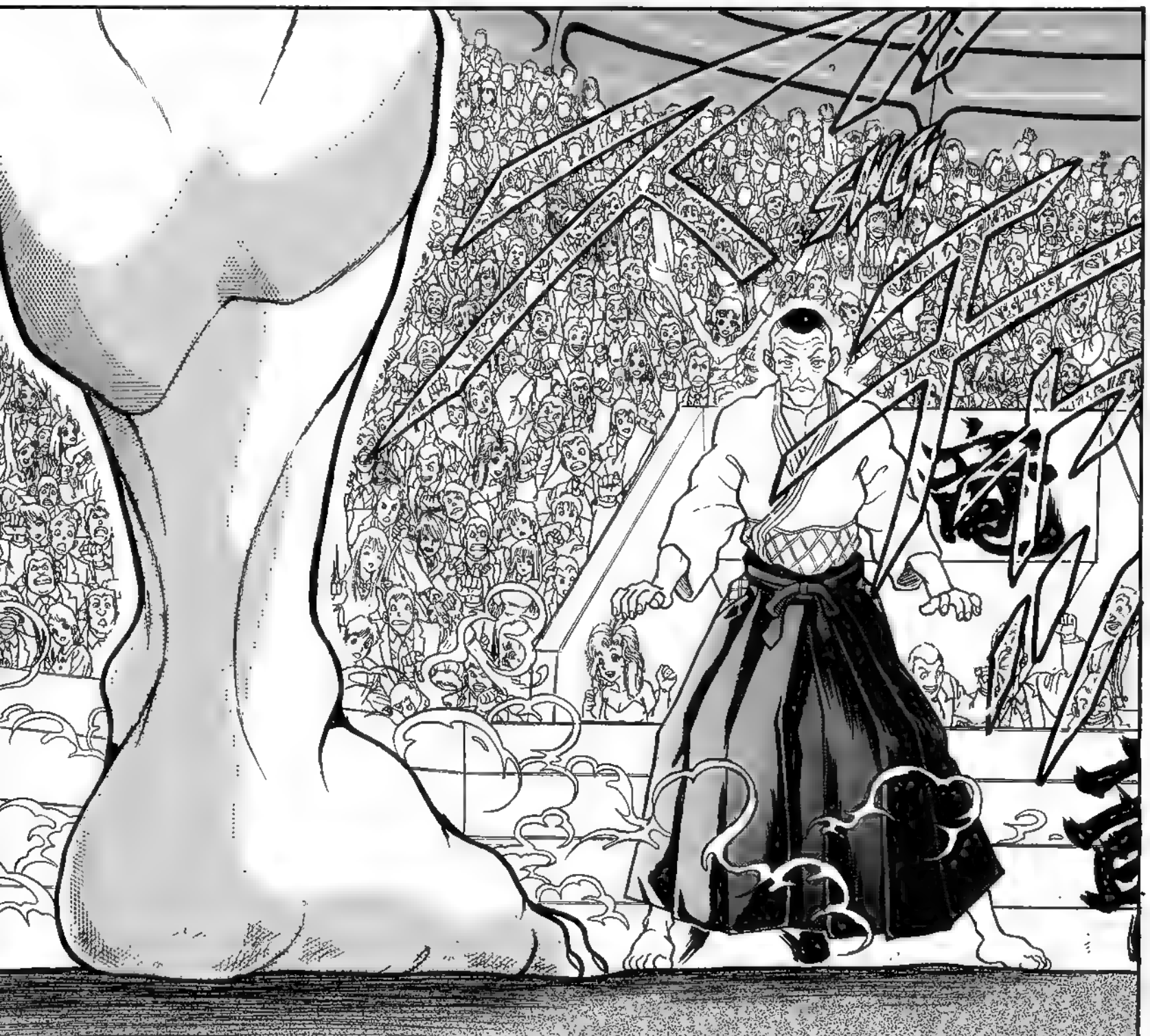
#332 Water Gun!!

BEGIN!

THUMP

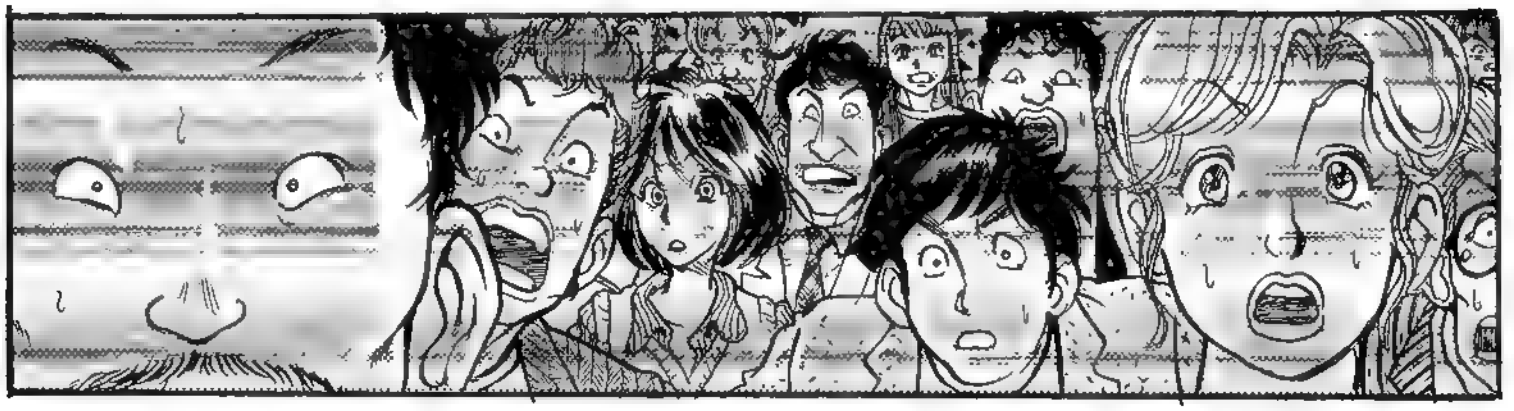
THUMP

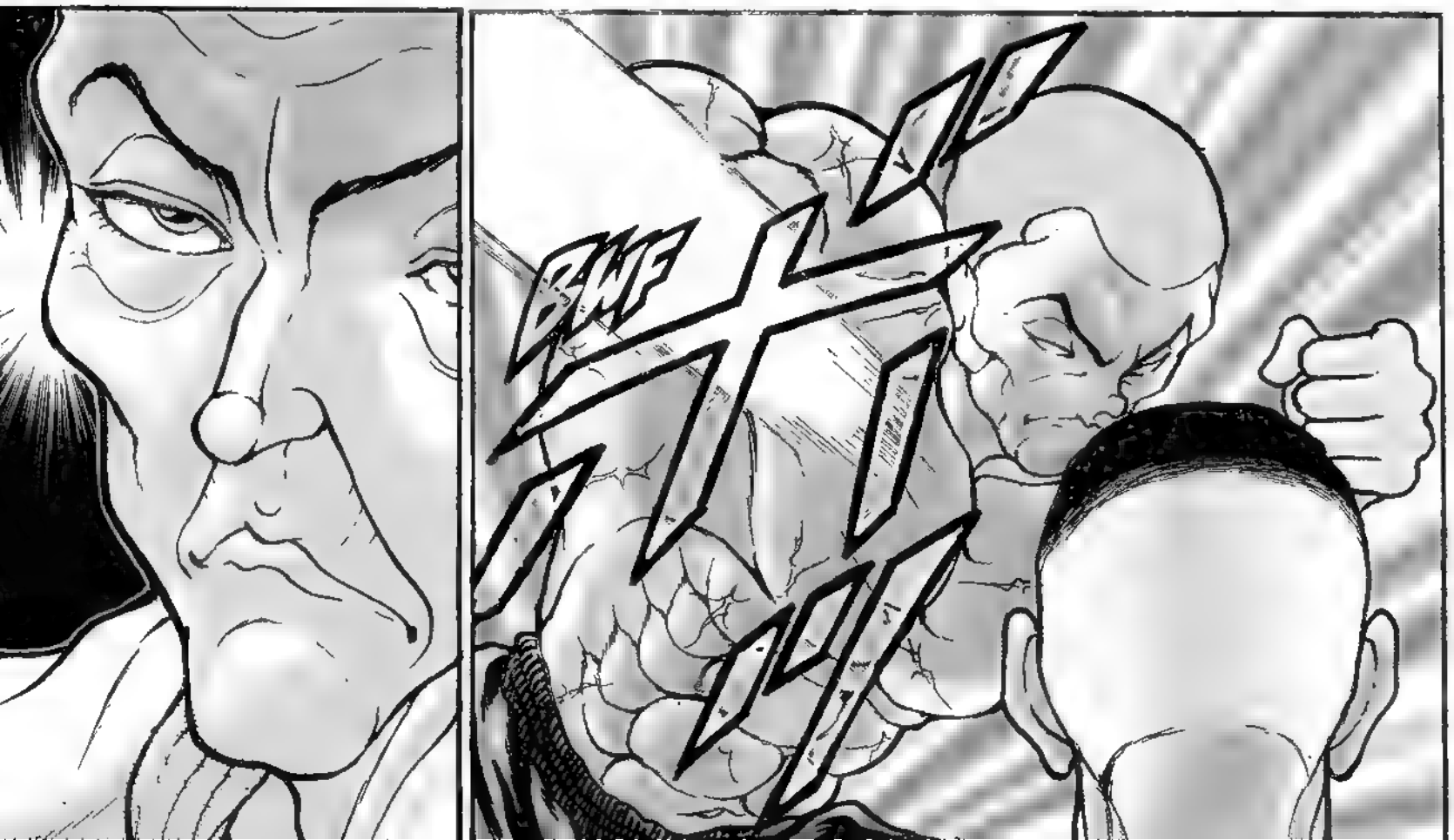
ゴォ…


SAGA

SWCH
GULP

SELF




BAM

WHIFF
SLASH

CRAZY TO THINK IF IT HIT!

THAT WAS *A HELL OF A WHIFF!!!*

HE MADE A *FEINT!*

...

LOOK AT ELDER SHIBU-KAWA'S FEET.

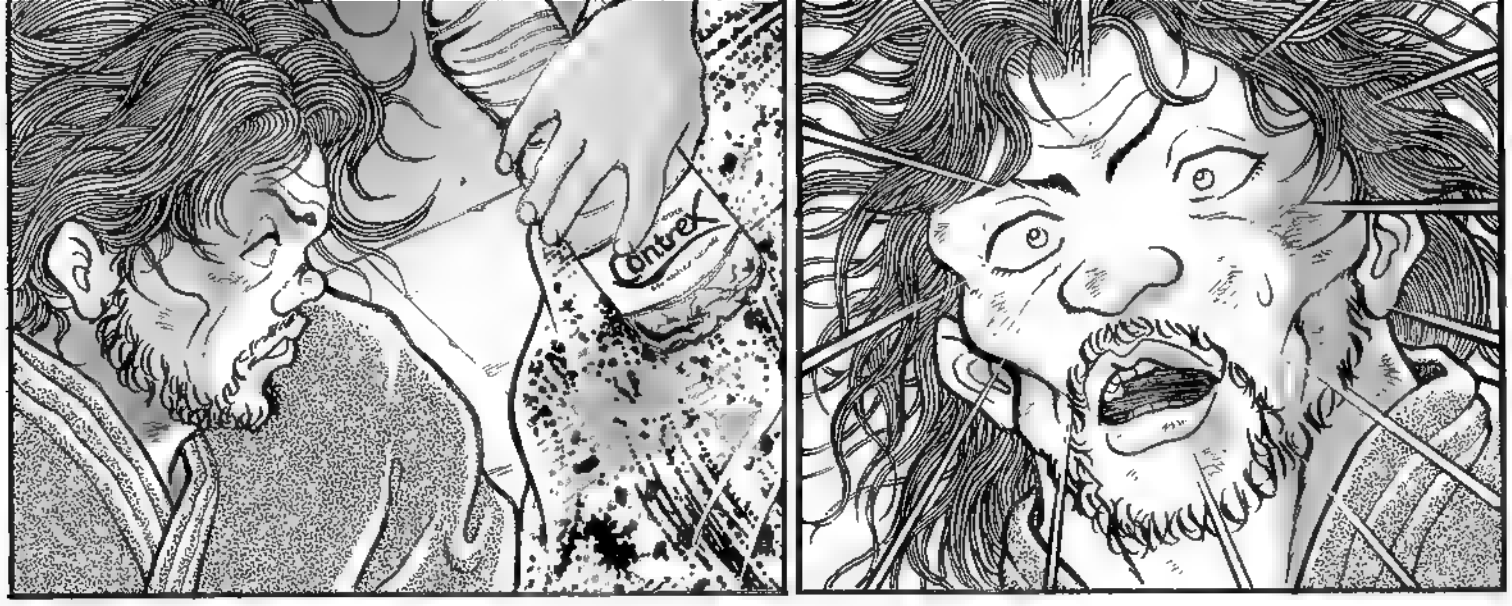
A FEINT FROM THE RIGHT...

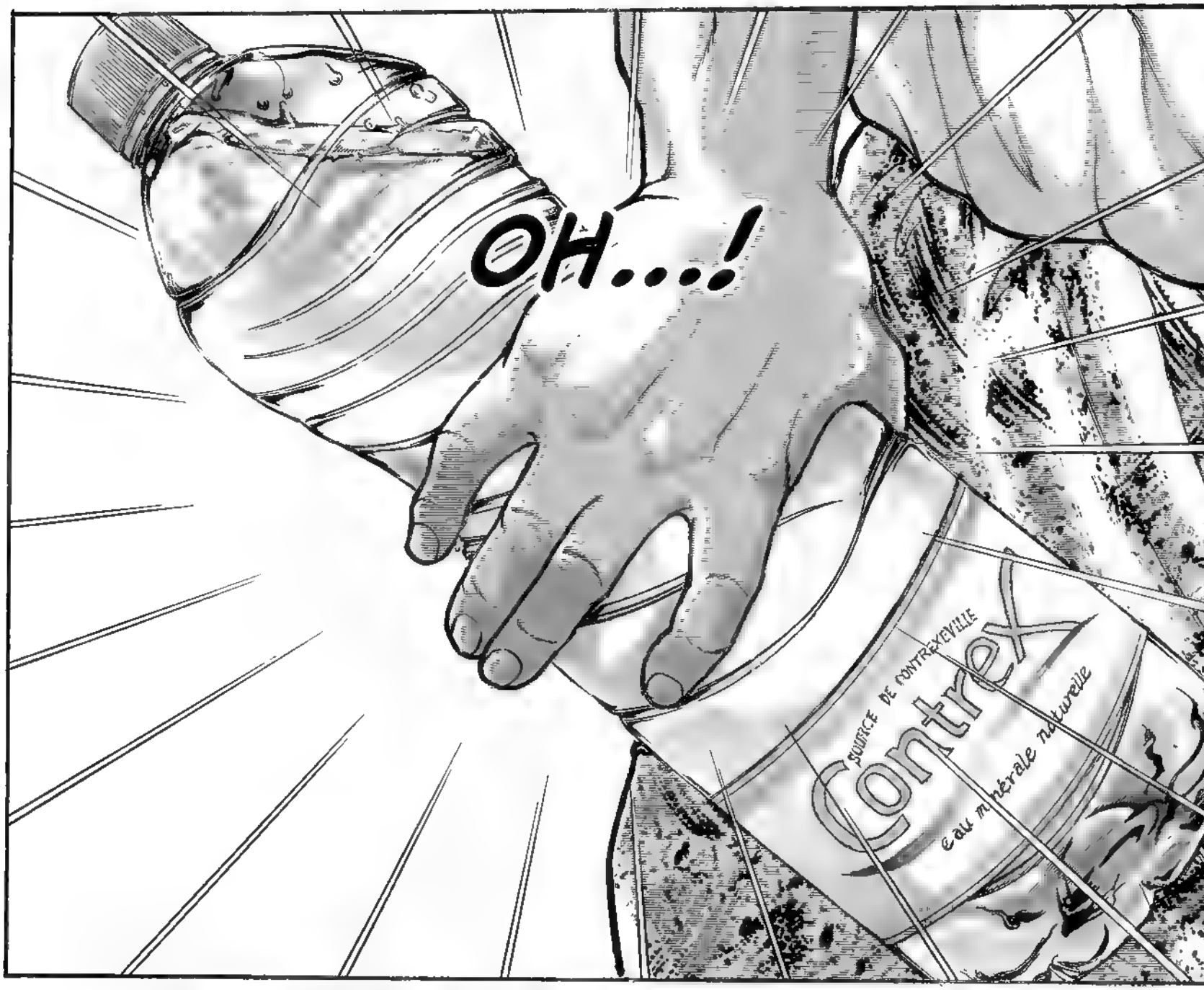
HE ONLY BACKED AWAY ENOUGH TO BARELY DODGE WITHOUT BREAKING HIS STANCE.

THEY'RE NOT HUMAN.

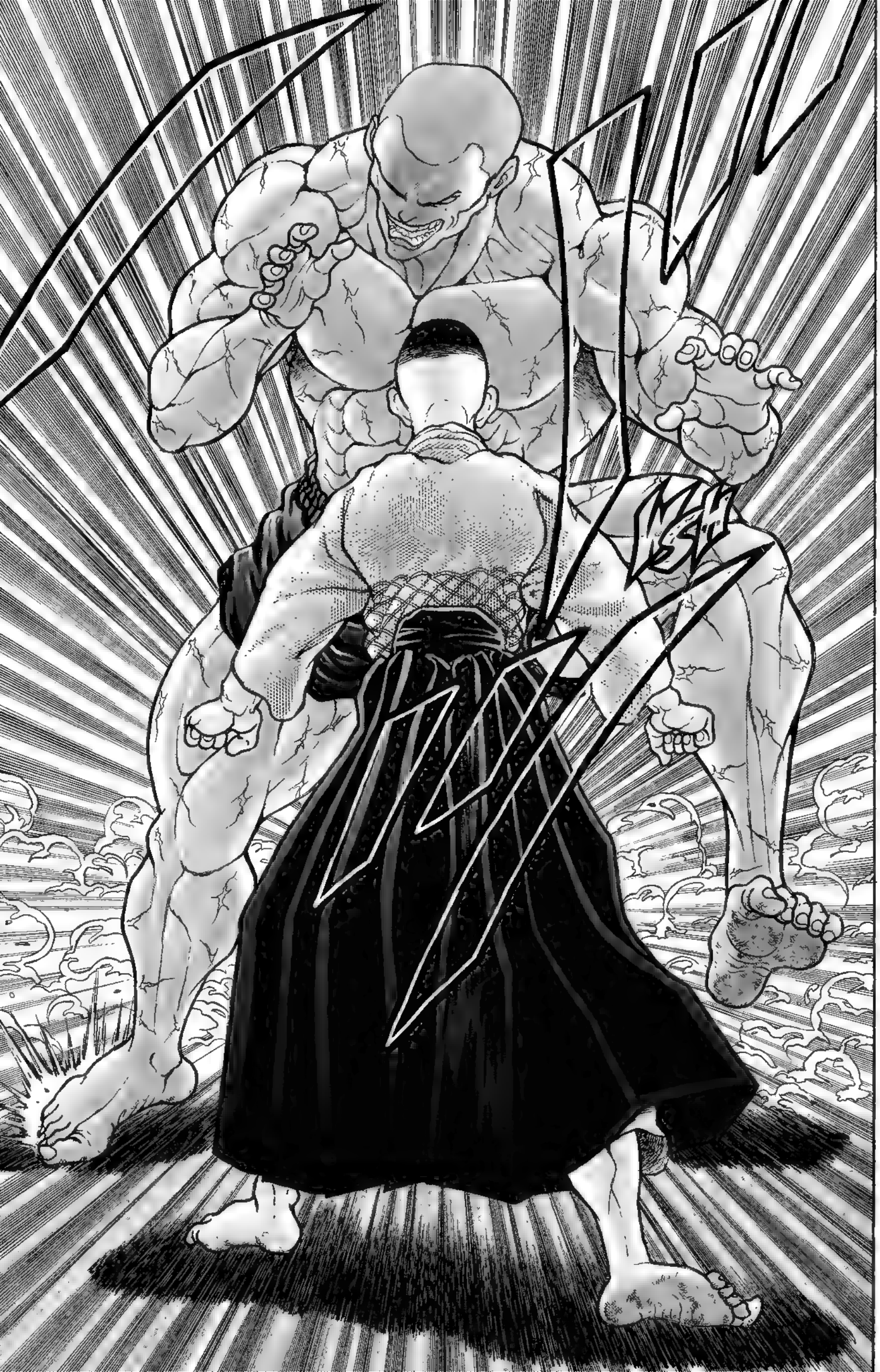
NEITHER OF THEM ...!!!

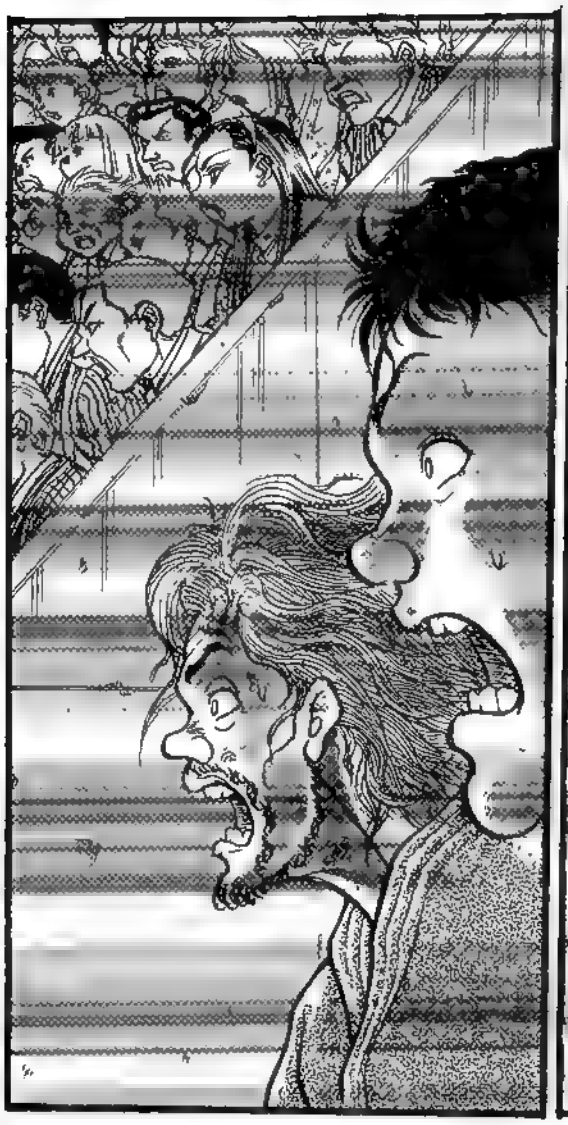
青竜
SWCH
THAT'LL DO...
JUST A HALF A STEP CLOSER...

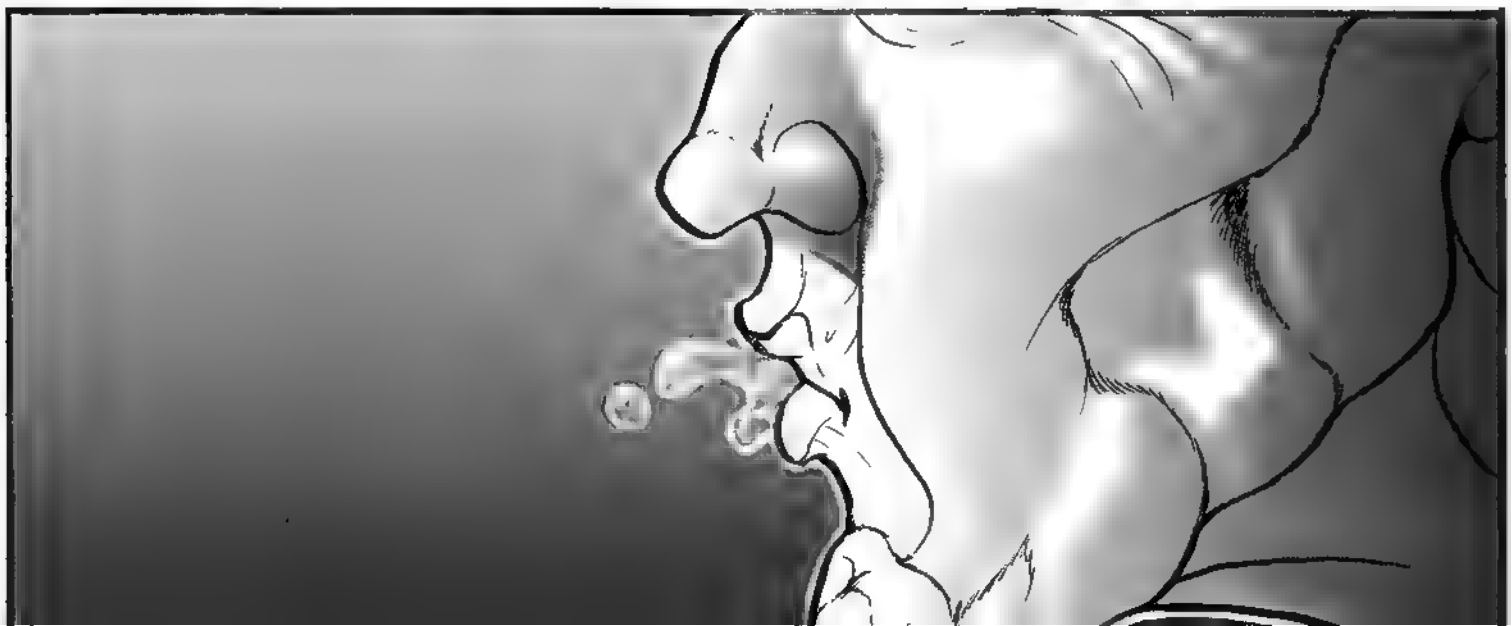

Contrex

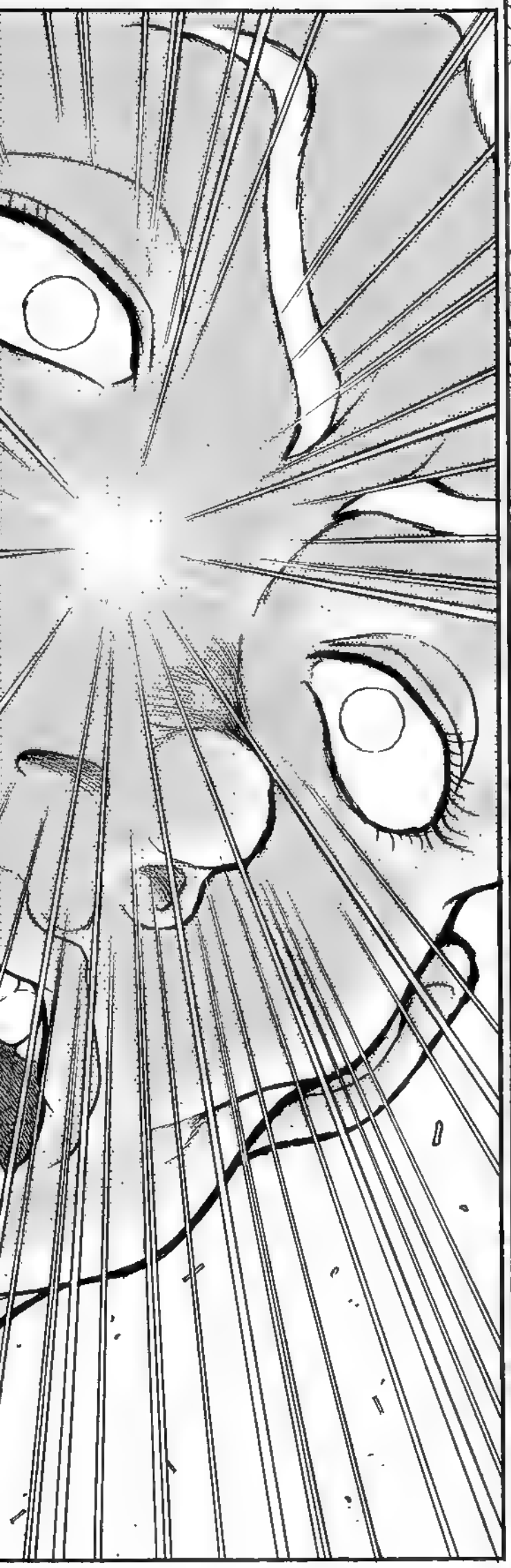

OH...!
SOURCE DE CONTREXEVILLE
Contrex
eau minérale naturelle

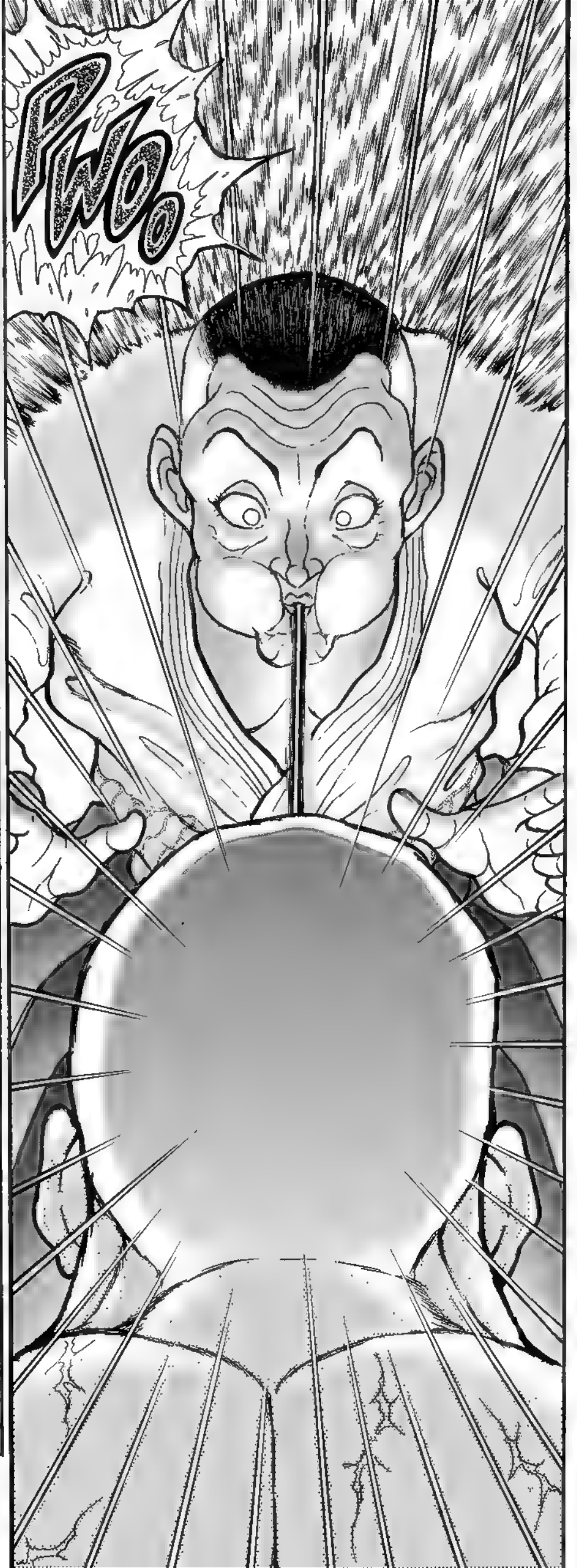
HE'S GOING TO DO THAT?!










PWo

10
FEAR

HUH ...?

WHAT HE DID WAS *NOTHING* THAT SIMPLE.

AN EYE GOUGE!

...THROUGHOUT THE FACE— ***RUIKETSU!***

ONE OF THE VITAL SPOTS INTER-SPERSED...

INDO
YOHAKU
SHICHIKUKUU
DOSHIRYO
SANCHIKU
RUIKETSU
KORYO
GEIKO
JINCHU
DAIGEI
BUKKOTSU
JITSUGETSU
SEIMEI
SHIHAKU
CHO-E
KENRYO
FUKON
HAGAKU
JINGEI
SUITOTSU

SHICHIKUKUU

JITSUGETSU

IF THIS POINT IS STRUCK SHARPLY WITH A DROP OF WATER AT HIGH VELOCITY...

DOSHIRYO

RUIKETSU

SHIHAKU

KNOW WHAT COMES NEXT?

...

...THAT TINY AMOUNT OF LIQUID WOULD BE DRIVEN INTO BOTH THE EYES AND NOSE.

YOU'D *DROWN.*

BLOOD

HO HO HO! SO YOU SINK LIKE A *HAMMER* IN THE WATER, *JACK* M'BOY?

?!!!

?!!!

WELL THEN, I BETTER RESCUE YOU.

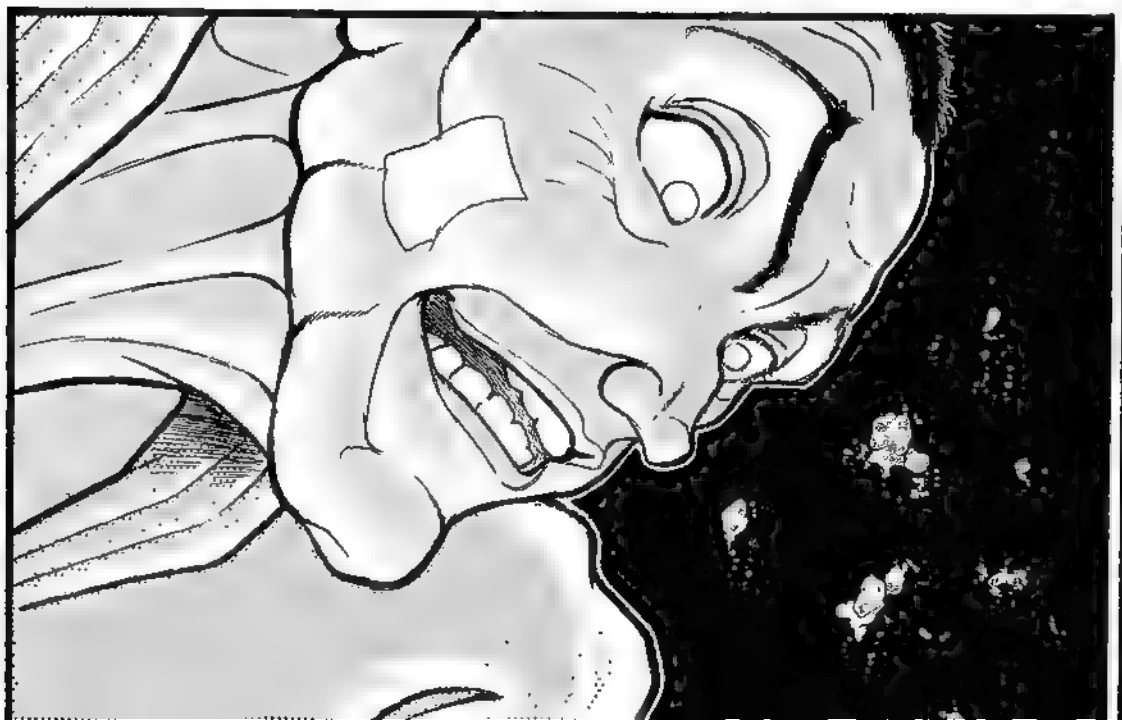
HERE YA GO! AN UPPER-CUT!

BAM

DON'T YOU GET UP, BOY...

#333 The Greatest Bow

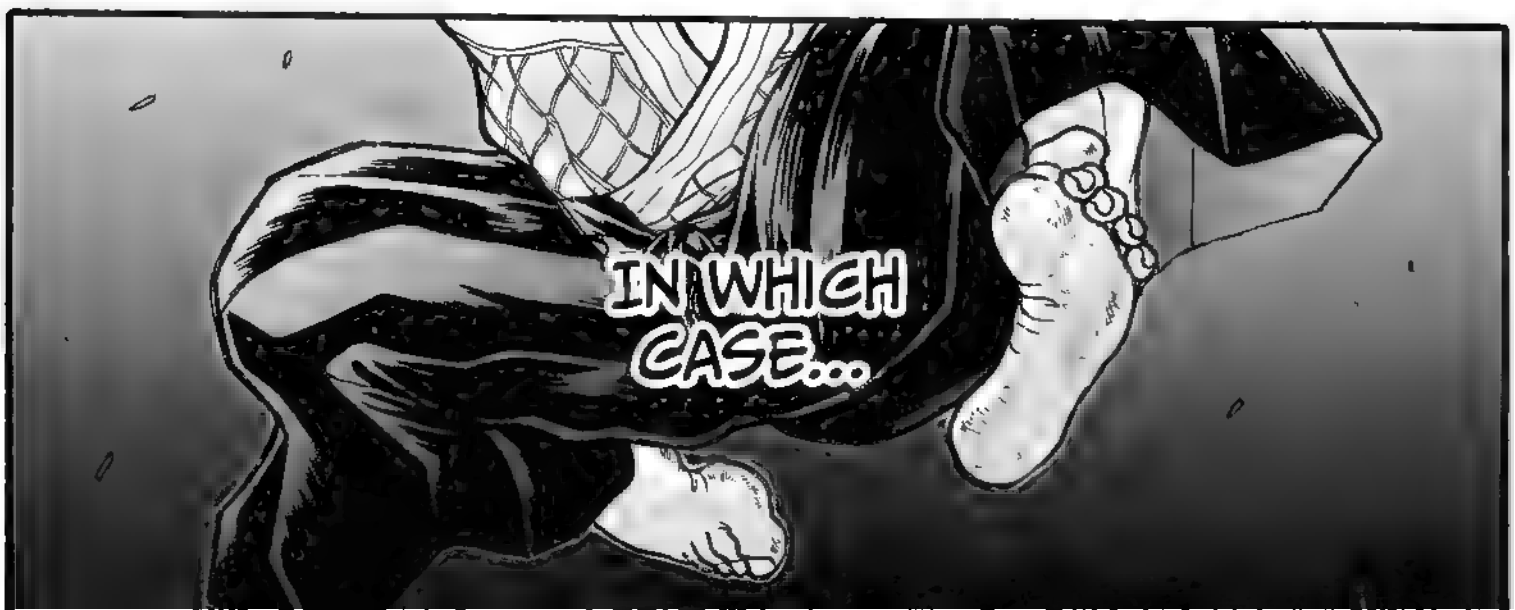
BA-BAM
BAM



KAH

NOW, DON'T YOU GET UP, BOY...

YOU'RE A
MONSTER.

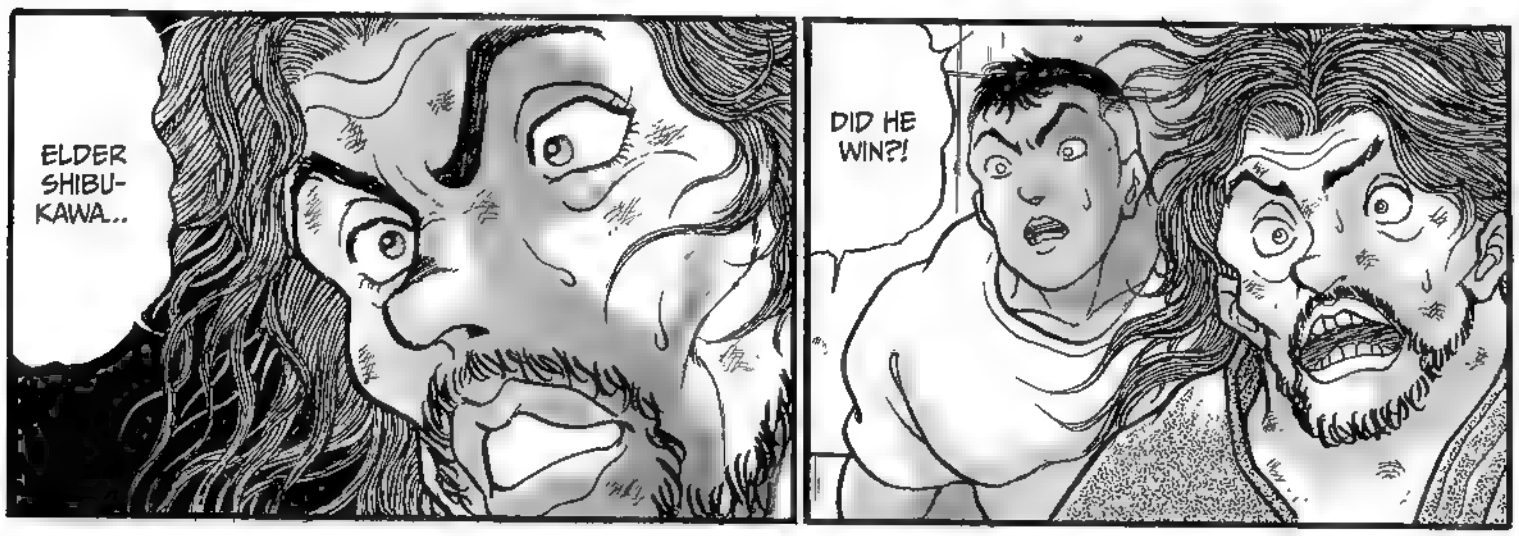

IN WHICH
CASE...

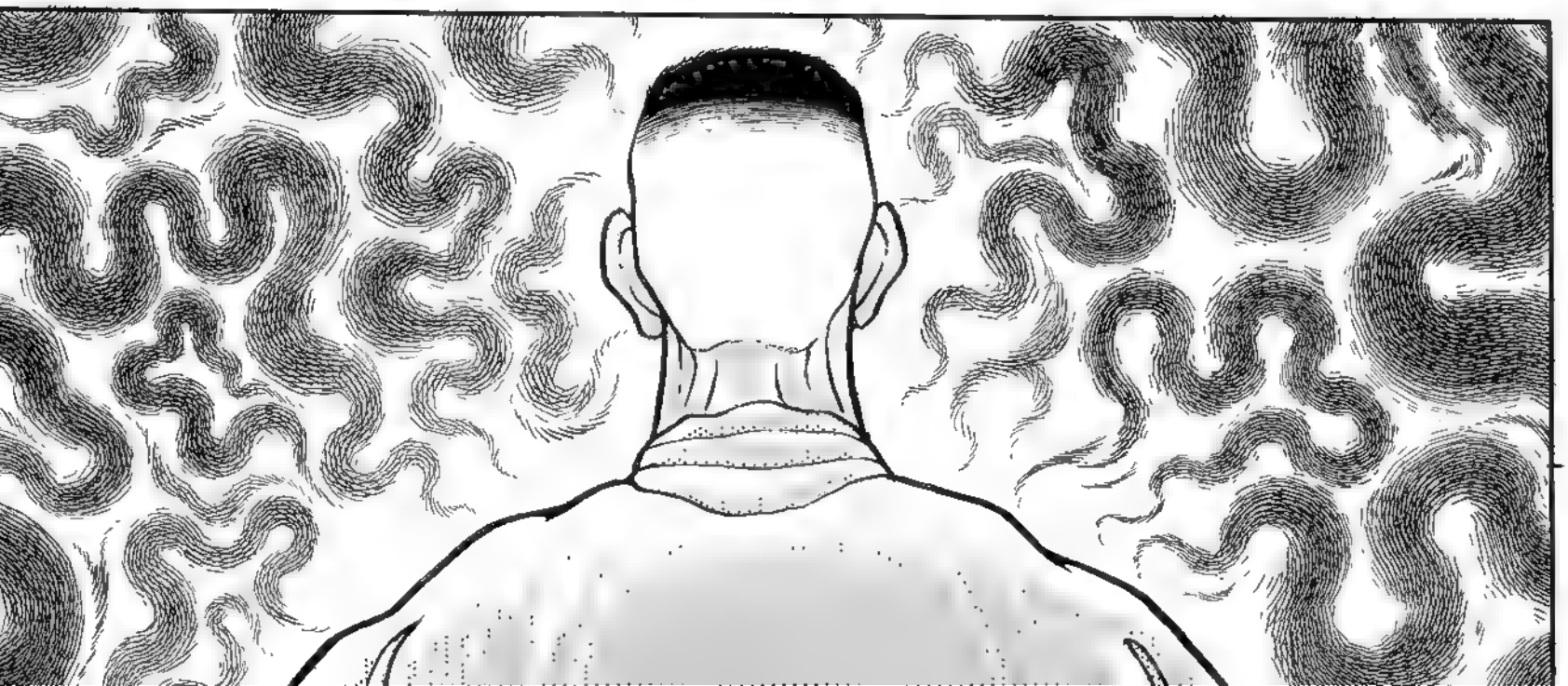
...HAVE ONE MORE FOR GOOD MEASURE !!!

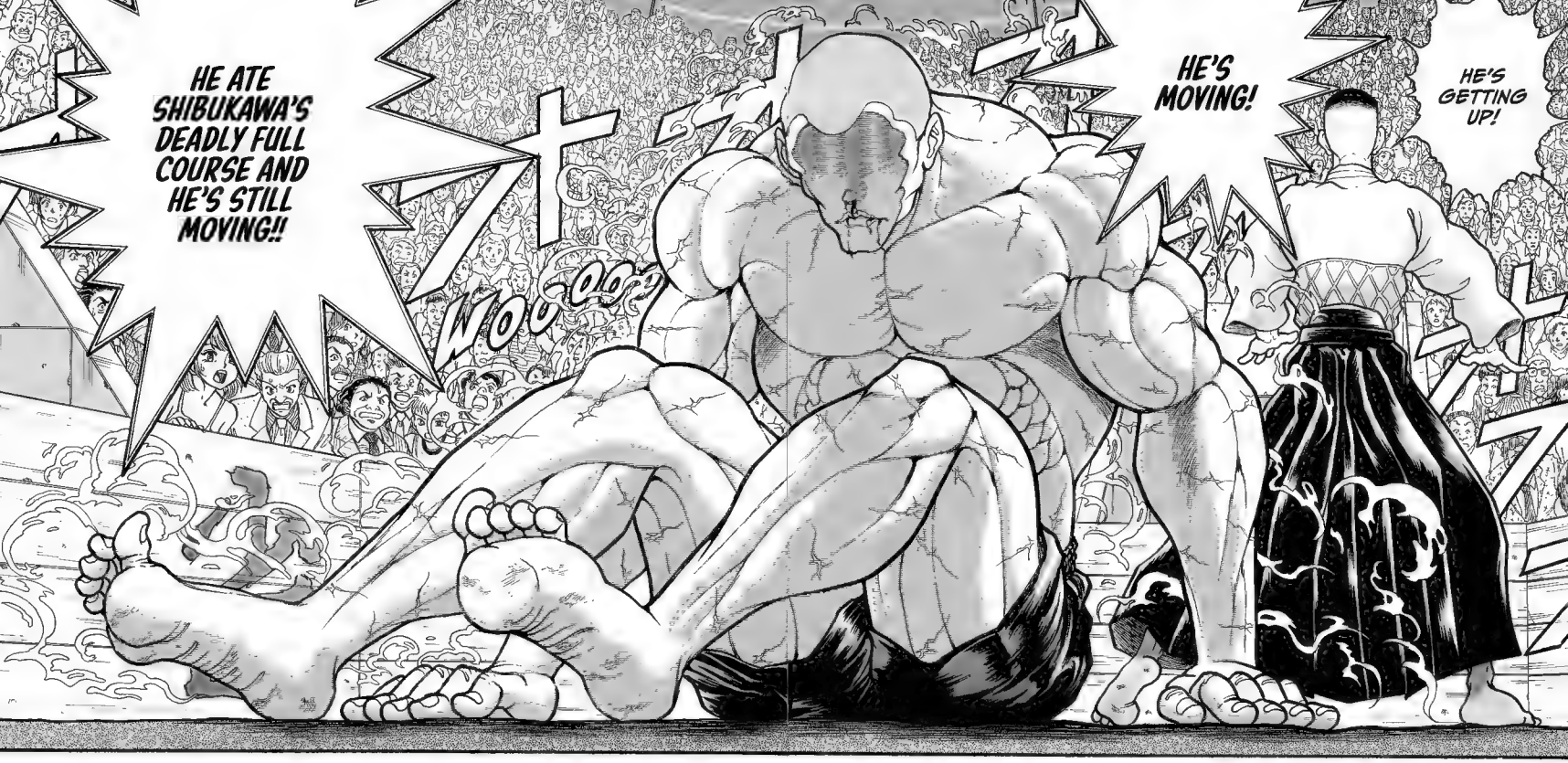
KABAM

青竜
HUP!!
FIGHTING DIRTY IS A PART OF MARTIAL ARTS.

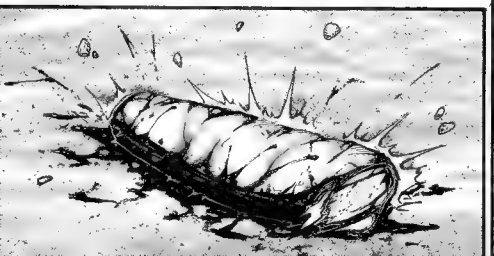
SORRY ABOUT THAT.

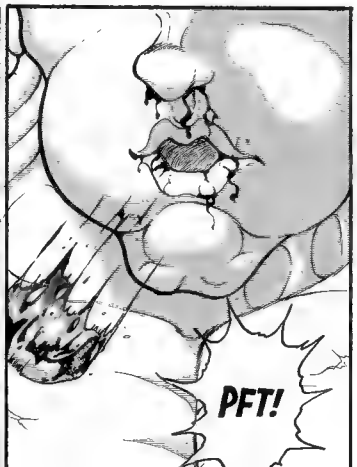

ELDER SHIBU-KAWA..
DID HE WIN?!



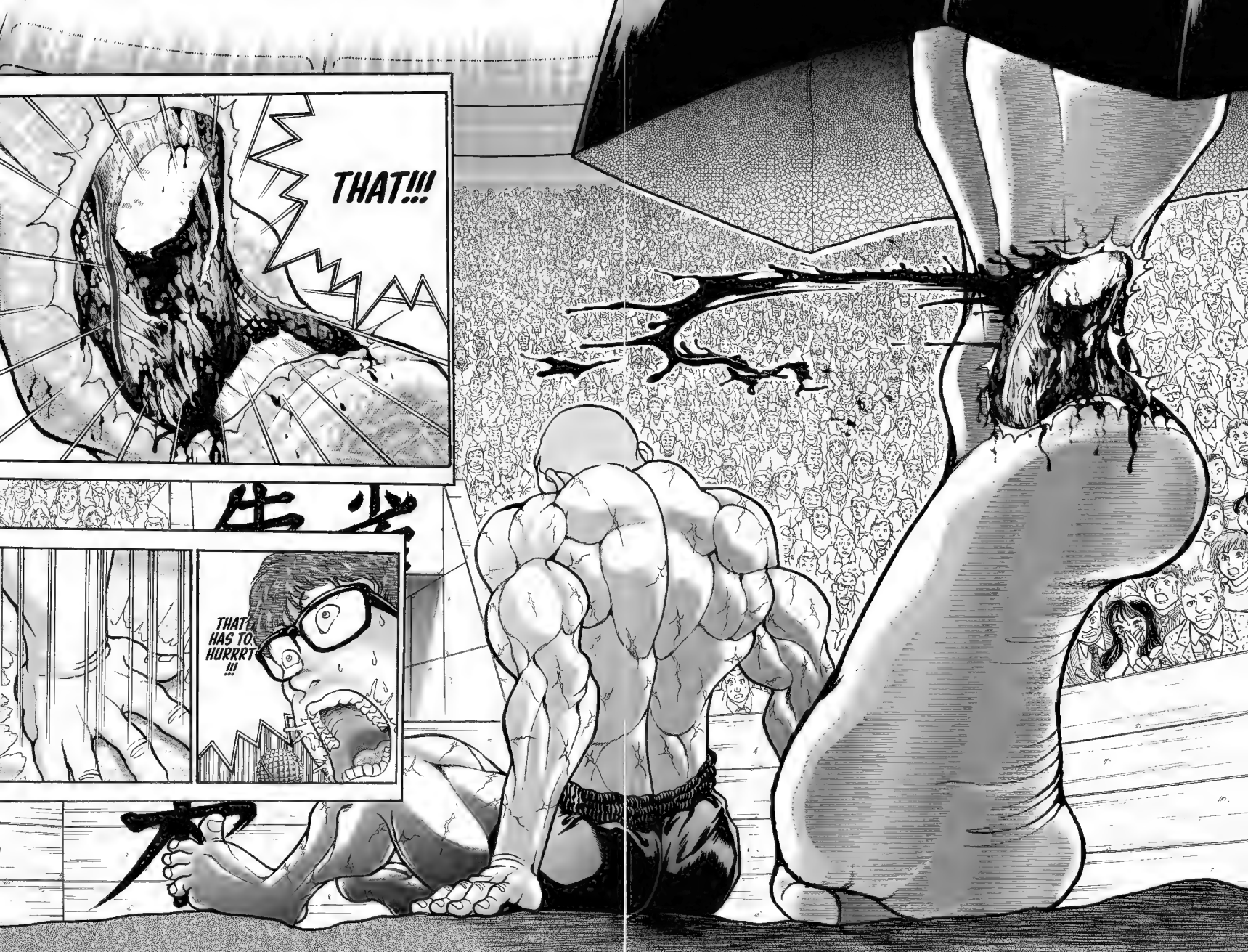

HE ATE SHIBUKAWA'S DEADLY FULL COURSE AND HE'S STILL MOVING!!
WOOOO
HE'S MOVING!
HE'S GETTING UP!

GO
FLAP




PFT!

YOU BASTARD ...
JACK ...


THAT!!!
THAT HAS TO HURRRT!!!

SMP

HE GNAWED OFF HIS ACHILLES' HEEL!!!

WHAT OUTRAGEOUS CONDUCT!!!

OOH!

WOOOO

...AND GAVE HIM THE GREATEST BOW!

JACK TURNED TO THE GREAT MARTIAL ARTS SENIOR HE JUST MAIMED...

FLARE

OOP

WORTH-LESS.

THIS GESTURE IS QUITE LITERALLY...

...PATRONIZINGLY POLITE !!!

TRAINING THAT ALLOWS A LONG LIFE IS UTTERLY WORTHLESS...

EEEEK!

THE MASTER NARROWLY AVOIDED DANGER WITH A ONE-LEGGED JUMP!!!

THE TERRIBLE JACK NONCHALANTLY PEELS OFF THE TAPE THAT CAME OFF ELDER SHIBUKAWA'S CHEEK!

HOWEVER, DESPITE THIS MATCH MAKING YOU WANT TO COVER YOUR EYES, THERE'S NO ONE TO STOP IT!

EVEN THE ORGANIZER, MITSUNARI TOKUGAWA, CAN'T STOP THIS MATCH!

THE MASTER IS HOPPING BACK TO GAIN DISTANCE!!!

ELDER SHIBUKAWA AND JACK!

THE ONLY ONES WHO CAN STOP IT ARE THESE TWO!

ONLY WHEN ONE OF THEM ADMITS DEFEAT!

AND ONLY WHEN ONE OF THEM...

...CAN NO LONGER MOVE!

JACK MAKES HIS MOVE!!!

MOMMY ...

Baki the Grappler Vol. 21 (End)

THE GRAPPLER
AKIRA
THE GRAPPLER
AKIRA

BAKI
THE GRAPPLER

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